the Resene magazine

INSIDE: THE $200 ROOM REVAMP

habitat

winter 2009 rrp$7.95 issue

don't sell, renovate
everything old is new again



a comedy of colour
funny-man Ewen Gilmour's ex-bach

make yourself a home

curtain call
hot new looks from Resene

a taste of France
Europe comes to the Hawke's Bay





KAREN WALKER

PAINTS




"We need to make some extensions, so we'll be back for more ideas."
VANTAGE

welcome

Resene Centaurian

Resene Flashback

Resene Kitsch

I know it's been said before, but one of the cheapest and easiest ways of changing the look of your home, is with paint. And now that we seem to be over the fixation with white-on-white interiors, introducing a bit of colour to your walls is not only a boost for your house, but for your jaded spirits in a time when the economy has stalled and gloom spreads its way across the front page of the newspapers.

Renovating is also a wise alternative to selling your home in this depressed property market – whether it's simply a change of wall colour and a new rug for winter, or grander schemes for additions or alterations to make sure your home continues to suit the needs of you and your family.

So take another look at the potential of your home, and gain some inspiration from the pages of this latest *Habitat* magazine. The ideas aren't just limited to superb use of colour and paint, nor just the walls. There's a funky coloured kitchen, repainted French-style furniture and also advice on how to create a cohesive interior.

Sharon Newey **editor**

Sharon



When times get tougher, it's a great time to think a little more laterally for cost-effective ways to improve our living spaces. Chances are, we are spending more time in them as we forego a meal out for entertaining in.

There's nothing quite like a good tidy up to instantly feel rejuvenated and you might just find those items that no longer have a home at your place can either earn you some money when you sell them (and perhaps fund some renovations or painting) or you can donate them to someone less fortunate, lift your spirits and improve both your living space and theirs at the same time.

One handy idea to help yourself feel warmer or cooler without having to turn on a heater or fan, is simply to put the right paint colour in the right place. You can make a room's temperature feel more comfortable with careful paint selections – warm colours like red or gold will warm up cool rooms, while cool colours like blue or green will make hot rooms feel cooler. It's often said that change is as good as a holiday, so if you're walking around your place this winter and find a room makes you feel chilly, grab yourself a paint chart and start selecting that warm colour. Enjoy!

The Resene Team









Editor: Sharon Newey
Advertising Manager: Carolyn de Freyne
Phone: 0272 808 070, email carolyn@jonespublishing.co.nz
Production Director: Lisa Morton
Production Managers: Esther Laurie, LauraGrace McFarland
Publishers: John Baker, Julian Andrews
Design Team: Susie Sherley, Sid Roy, Sara Black
Printing: PMP Print

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Jones Publishing Ltd – a division of Tangible Media
PO Box 78070, Grey Lynn, Auckland 1021, New Zealand
Phone: +649 360 5700
Facsimile: +649 360 5702
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Resene
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In Australia:
Resene Paints (Aust) Ltd
PO Box 785, Ashmore City
QLD 4214
Website: www.resene.com.au
Email: advice@resene.com.au
Phone: 1800 738 383

In New Zealand:
Resene Paints Ltd
PO Box 38242, Wellington Mail Centre
Lower Hutt 5045
Website: www.resene.co.nz
Email: advice@resene.co.nz
Phone: 0800 RESENE (737 363)

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Resene
Wave Rider







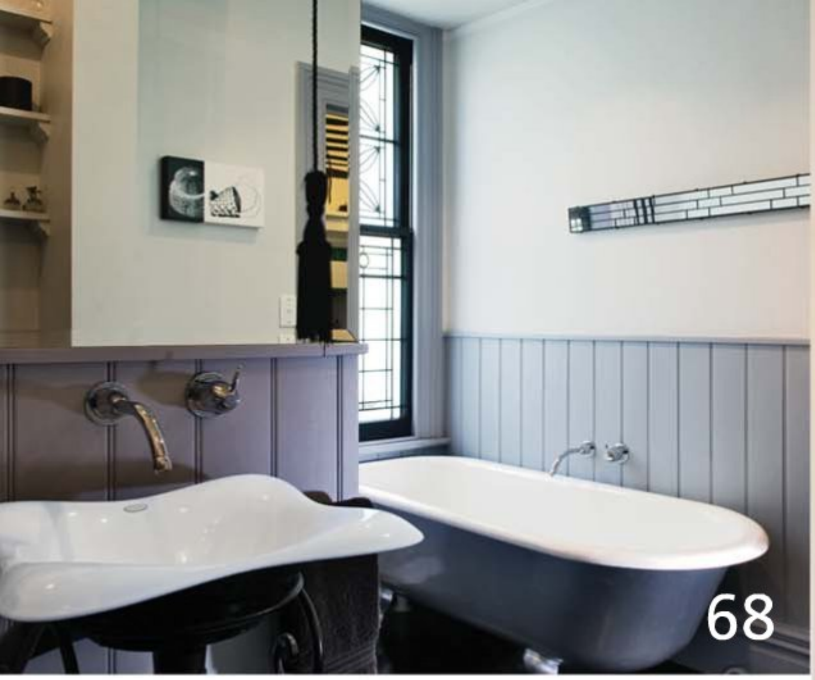




Cover look
Yes, even an iconic piece like a La-z-boy can gain new notoriety, when given the makeover treatment by interior designer Fiona McLeod. With a passion for refurbishing retro and vintage furniture and objects, she has clad the chair in vibrant red upholstery, dubbed it the Lazy-Girl and set it against a backdrop of Resene Karma. The tui cushion fabric is by Ingrid Anderson Textile Designs, the tripod lampshade is covered in Ingrid Anderson's Ring Green fabric, the rug is caramel gold short pile shag, and the black metal side table is designed by FMD. All are from Fiona McLeod Design; for more of Fiona's clever ideas, see the Alternative Solution feature on page 52.

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everything old is new again



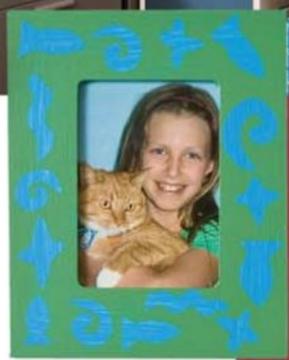
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every issue



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"Use blocks of colour to enliven an ordinary bookcase"





Contractors were all locals… surfies. "When the surf was up, they were off."

She bought the bach back in 1997 when she had her first teaching job in Pukekohe. It was in 2001, as head of drama, that she met Ewen. She'd asked him to be the judge of a school talent quest. They headed overseas together for a while, Ewen was a roaring success on the European comedy circuit, and when they returned, they lived in West Auckland. Late in 2007, Cathy was diagnosed with a brain tumour and had major surgery, so Ewen quit his job as a councillor a term early and the couple decided to live at the beach full-time.

As the bach was tiny, the 'big revamp' began in March last year. They were fortunate that their contractors were all locals. The only problem was, they were also surfies. "When the surf was up, they were off," says Cathy. Things get done in their own time at Port Waikato and nobody gets resentful, she says. The couple also built a beautiful studio for Cathy on the hill behind the house.

This is not your average West Coast home. Having morphed from an ordinary little bach it now radiates positive energy, combating any negativity that might dare show its face inside. H

Did you know? If you're planning a dark exterior paint or stain finish on your home's exterior, consider using a Resene Cool Colour. Resene Cool Colours are designed to reflect more of the sun's energy than a standard colour, reducing heat buildup in the coating, substrate and minimising heat transference inside. Available in a wide range of products and colours from Resene.

Resene Gorse

Resene Morning Glory

Resene Quarter Spanish White

Resene Sublime

Resene Supernova

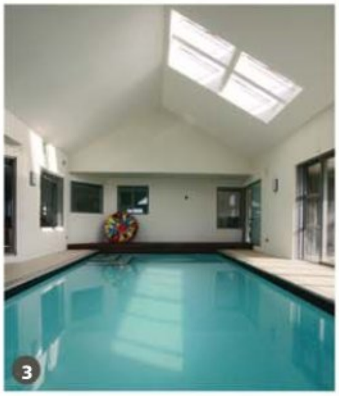
Above left Ewen describes the wall of the new music room as "a kind of 3D chequerboard on acid".

Above Resene Sublime walls in the kitchen are offset by a splashback of Resene Bullseye and bright blue cabinets.

words Vicki Holder
pictures Mark Heaslip







❶ Upstairs apartment bedroom: "You can lie in bed and look at the stars". 2 banks of 3 VELUX Skylights – 2 outside ones open, with the centre one fixed.

❷ Exterior of de Roo House

❸ Internal swimming pool room: Light comes through the VELUX Skylights into the pool and is reflected into the lounge through the glass windows and doors.

Living the Dream

WITHOUT EXHAUSTING RESOURCES

de Roo House, Halswell on the Park, Reserve, Christchurch

"We designed the house and located the VELUX Skylights in line on three of the four sides of the roof to minimize dark corners inside"

PAUL DE ROO —
RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION.

Three years ago Paul de Roo embarked on a cunning plan; to build a sprawling 410 square metre home that didn't come with super sized power bills.

The site for his plan; Christchurch's Halswell on the Park, bounded by native reserve on two sides.

The single storey home was planned with two distinct aspects; a self contained upstairs apartment, and a swimming pool room, with energy efficiency taking centre stage.

"The thing I hate most is the power bills – every time you turn around they seem to put the price up. Friends have had power bills of $500 – $1000 per month," comments de Roo.

The apartment:

To maintain the single storey design, the upstairs apartment was created in the roof space.

"We wanted to be able to tuck our family under our wing," says de Roo. To achieve airflow and lighting de Roo placed two banks of three VELUX Skylights in the roof.

"It would get stuffy and stagnant with traditional windows," explains de Roo. "Without the VELUX Skylights it would have been difficult to achieve this quality of living – warm sunlight, natural lighting and natural ventilation."

The banks of VELUX Skylights are on either side of the apartment to catch sunlight through the day. "The sun sets in the west, so the only time we turn a light on is at night."

The swimming pool room:

The swimming pool room faces onto the reserve's small lake, so the family can breakfast watching the ducks through two sets of interior windows.

In this 7 metre wide room, de Roo installed two banks of VELUX Skylights – two up and two down.

The sun shines through the skylights, across the swimming pool room into the lounge, creating extra natural light.

Humidity was a possible issue for the swimming pool room. VELUX Opening Skylights move air and clear humidity and condensation at the touch of a button.

This highly spec'd swimming pool room can also be a movie theatre.

An open and shut case for energy efficiency.

The de Roo household's power bill this summer has averaged an acceptable $200 per month, which includes the initial heating up of the swimming pool. de Roo attributes the natural lighting and ventilation to his decision to use VELUX Skylights.

"We designed the house with luxury in mind, and to be much bigger than the average sized family home, but costing as much in energy to run as an average sized home.

"Power keeps going up – VELUX Skylights add the light and ventilation upstairs so we don't have to."

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raise the curtain

Boring beige is out, bold patterns are in as curtains fabrics become more adventurous.

Words: Mary Searle



Far left Resene Curtain Collection Diva: Stunning sheen effect with European-inspired woven contemporary design.

Left Resene Curtain Collection Intercept: Metallic thread highlights and an embossed surface.

Below Resene Curtain Collection Axiom: Dramatic, stylish design woven into a light-reflecting fabric.



For many years curtains have been the quiet cousin of interior schemes, blending in with the neutral beiges and creams on our walls. But that trend is over. Plain on plain is out. It's time to inject a little life into your window dressings.

Colour is coming back, as are patterned fabrics, and this time round they're bold – stylised florals and damasks, shot with metallic threads, and with exciting new textures too.

Most colours are still fairly soft and gentle, with flashes of brilliance for the brave, and the patterns are simple and classic. A little conservatism is not a bad thing when it comes to your curtains, as you're unlikely to change them again in a hurry.

Wynne Brewer, sales and design manager for furnishing company Mollers, says we change our curtains about once every seven years. Because of this length of time, we tend to choose conservative drapes, letting bursts of colour in the room come through in paint, duvets, cushions and other accessories.

But both Wynne and her colleague, production manager Trish van Bussel, are very excited by what they see ahead in curtaining trends. "The amount of pattern coming through is great," says Wynne. "It adds interest and you can express a lot more personality."

Although the trend towards patterned fabrics has been growing for a few years now, the patterns are now becoming larger and bolder, and textured fabrics are coming to the fore.

"Fabric designers around the world have been playing with the finishing of yarns and fabrics, adding patterns and designs through different finishing processes, such as pleating, permanent pressing, crushing, overlays, double weaving and the addition of metallic yarns, etc," says Trish. "These processes are often layered to create a unique look and feel."

On top of this, printed patterns are added, which creates even more depth and interest.

>

Resene
Moody Lavender





The colour trends are exciting too. No longer stuck with only beige and taupe, the fashion colours range from black, warm charcoals and chocolates to mocha and warmer beiges. There are creams and greyed duck-egg blues, through to fresher greens, whites, soft grey and vanilla, with red, coral and apple green as accents.

Trish divides our tastes into two main looks: opulent and natural.

The opulent look is one of classic elegance. Sometimes traditional, it encompasses rich colours and metallics, although these are now softened rather than shiny. Opulent colours are greyed plums, purples and mauves with soft metallics – dulled gold, silver and copper.

Opulent patterns include the curvy waves of Persian glamour, stylised damask effects and, a local favourite, stripes. Taffeta is still very strong, but now has a drier look and incorporates woven designs, says Trish.

In contrast, the natural look is light and fresh. Often referencing leaves and vines, the natural look lends itself to linens and soft greys, with colours like fresh green and coral often used as accents.

A fabric making headway in the natural look is linen, which can feature either woven or printed patterns. Linen hasn't traditionally been used as curtaining fabric as it tends to break down in the sunlight, but when it is blended with a more robust fibre, you get the look of linen but with increased durability.

Above left Resene Curtain Collection Balance: Grainy textured surface for contemporary homes.

Above right Resene Curtain Collection Metaphor: All-over botanical design in a subtle blend of toning shades.

Left Resene Curtain Collection Liberty: A linen-look update of a classic woven jacquard design.





Perfect partners

For the DIYer, one of the big challenges when it comes to interior decorating is being able to find the right curtains to match the paint you've chosen, or vice versa. Now there is a supremely simple solution for those embarking on decorating projects: Mollers, in partnership with Resene, has developed a range of curtain fabrics, available in Resene ColorShops and selected curtaining stores, designed to match Resene's popular paint colours and a number of feature colours.

"Up until now you had to go into a paint store to buy your paint and a curtain store to buy your curtains," says Wynne Brewer. "As the two products ultimately end up in the same room, Resene wanted to make the process easier and have the key components of a room designed to go together and available in one place."

Mollers and Resene started with around 100 different fabrics and refined them down to a range of 29, which incorporates a variety of styles – traditional and contemporary, residential and commercial.

Some of the fabrics come in a number of different colourways – for example, the Resene Metaphor curtain, with its simple leaf motif on a lightly textured background, is available in Naturalle (rich cream), Mocha (warm brown) or Bud (soft green), which is proving a particularly popular choice.

And to make the whole process supremely simple, each curtain sample comes with a how-to card which details the matching paint colours for that particular curtain.

Although you don't have to stick to what the card says, it does offer a number of different paint options for each fabric, for example the Resene Diva curtain in Charcoal (a luxurious sheen curtain with a tone-on-tone woven contemporary design) suggests a choice of two neutrals – Resene Half Napa or Resene Half Stonehenge – or the deep charcoal Resene Jaguar, for a more dramatic effect.

To see the curtain range either visit your local Resene ColorShop or www.resene.co.nz/curtains.htm to find your nearest curtain specialist that offers the Resene Curtain Collection.

Above left Resene Curtain Collection Ignite: Contemporary design printed in the newest metallics.

Above right Resene Curtain Collection Ambiance: Classic narrow stripe in a faux silk effect.

Resene
Half Napa

Resene
Moody Lavender

keeping it clean

This good keen bloke has a long-held passion for keeping the country litter-free.

You can call Barry Lucinsky whatever you like – just as long as it isn't a tree hugger!

The 75-year-old from Te Horo, north of Wellington, may have been responsible for single-handedly breathing life back into the Keep New Zealand Beautiful (KNZB) organisation, but call him a lentil-munching, tree-hugging hippy at your peril.

"My focus is more on living harmoniously with nature and the environment," laughs the self-confessed Kiwi bloke.

"I come from a rural background and I think you'd be hard pressed to find someone from the country who doesn't care about the land."

KNZB is a not-for-profit organisation that operates as a charitable trust to promote litter abatement, waste reduction, and town and city beautification. It was established under the umbrella of the New Zealand Litter Act 1979. However, it wasn't until 2000 that Barry was invited to get involved.

Unfortunately, his arrival also coincided with the last gasp of the organisation. "Membership had dropped and they were going to disband it. But I thought the work they did was too important to let go."

So Barry revived KNZB, initially funding it himself and working as the sole employee. "I was the CEO, GM, event manager, you name it," he jokes.

Not one to shy away from hard yakka, Barry helped to turn the organisation's fortunes around, including increasing its corporate support base from one to around 35, and attracting record attendance numbers at the annual Clean Up New Zealand Week.

"The first year we had about 400,000 people and at the last week, around 1.3 million people got involved, which is fantastic. I think it's a sign that more and more people are taking pride in where they live. After all, who wants to live in a pig sty?"

But when he turned 75, the father of three chucked it in, saying it was time to hand over the reins to new blood.

Ask him what his legacy is, and Barry will point to a combination of leadership and tenacity. "It's probably the reason they asked me to get involved in KNZB in the first place – I have the sort of personality that if I set my mind to something, then I'll do it. I also felt that I offered strong leadership, and I'd like to think that had something to do with the strong, vibrant organisation that KNZB is today."

It's been a long and winding road for the Foxton-born Barry, whose career has been more chequered than a dartboard. He left school at 15 to milk cows and, in his lifetime, has been a roading contractor, fencer, tomato grower, school bus driver, concrete supplier, flower grower and breeder of 3000 ferrets.

But no matter how Barry earned a living, his passion for the environment has always been to the fore and in the 1970s he was awarded an Energy and Conservation Award for an innovative roading basecoat he made from waste material.

Since retiring from KNZB, Barry has been doing anything but sitting idly by. He currently heads up four companies, including a business that removes graffiti for OnTrak, a billboard company, and his most recent venture, environmentally friendly toilets.

Barry's Silica Glass Crushers business, meanwhile, crushes bottles for use on roading surfaces, something he's been involved with for some time. The day we meet, he had just returned from towing his crusher down to Gore where he estimates he crushed around 600 tonnes of glass.

Is it any coincidence that most of his businesses have a strong environmental focus? "I'm totally committed to the idea of keeping this beautiful country of ours in a pristine state. Like many Kiwis, my ancestors came from somewhere else [Czechoslovakia] and this country has been good to me and my children and their children. Don't we owe it to be good back to the country?"

So does he have any advice on how to keep New Zealand beautiful?

"I try not to get too fanatical with people, because otherwise they think you're a nutter and they won't listen to you! I'd suggest leading by example, so not chucking stuff out of the car window and generally having some respect and pride for where you live. That's a pretty powerful force to be reckoned with..." H

Less litter

Keep New Zealand Beautiful (KNZB) is a non-profit organisation operating as a charitable trust to promote litter abatement, waste reduction and town and city beautification.

KNZB delivers programs through local, school and national litter programs and cleanup activities. Work is done by volunteers, schools, community groups, local bodies, local councils, businesses and industrial organisations. Projects are co-ordinated by programme sites (eg Keep Porirua Beautiful) to keep the towns and cities, streets and parks, lakes, coastal and marine locations beautiful and litter-free.

Some of its more intriguing initiatives are the annual Best Loo competition and the launch of a Cigarette Butt Litter Toolkit.

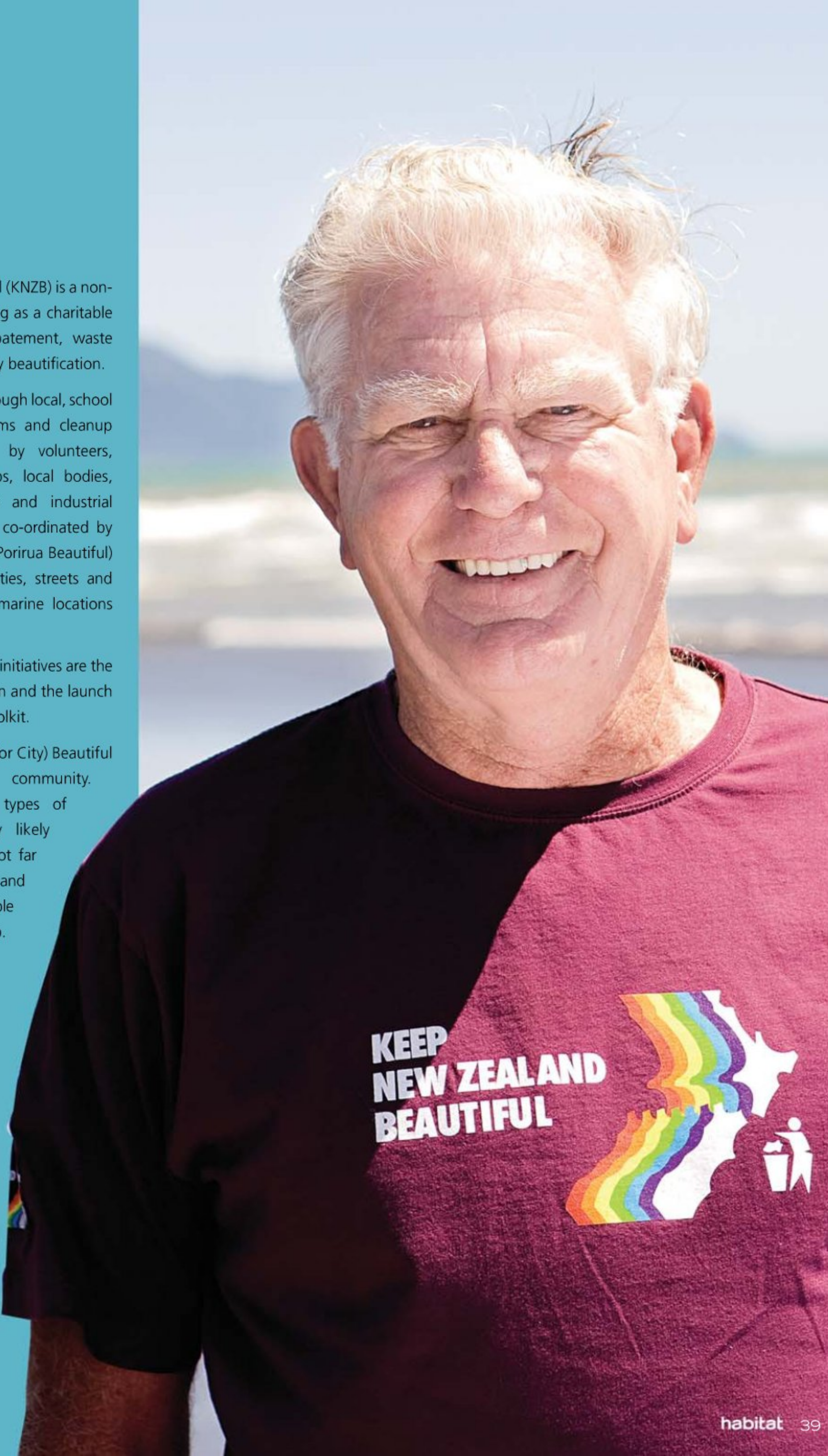
There are Keep Your Town (or City) Beautiful organisations near each community. KNZB has roles for all types of members and it's highly likely there's an active branch not far away. A list of members and more information is available on the website, www.knzb.org.nz.

Australia hosts a similar organisation – Keep Australia Beautiful – see www.kab.org.au.

Resene Parachute

Resene X Factor

Right Barry Lucinsky... a fine legacy for a cleaner New Zealand.



words Sharon Stephenson
pictures Nicola Edmonds

the master plan

Interior designer and tutor Debbie Abercrombie explains how to create your renovation master plan – a swatch board.

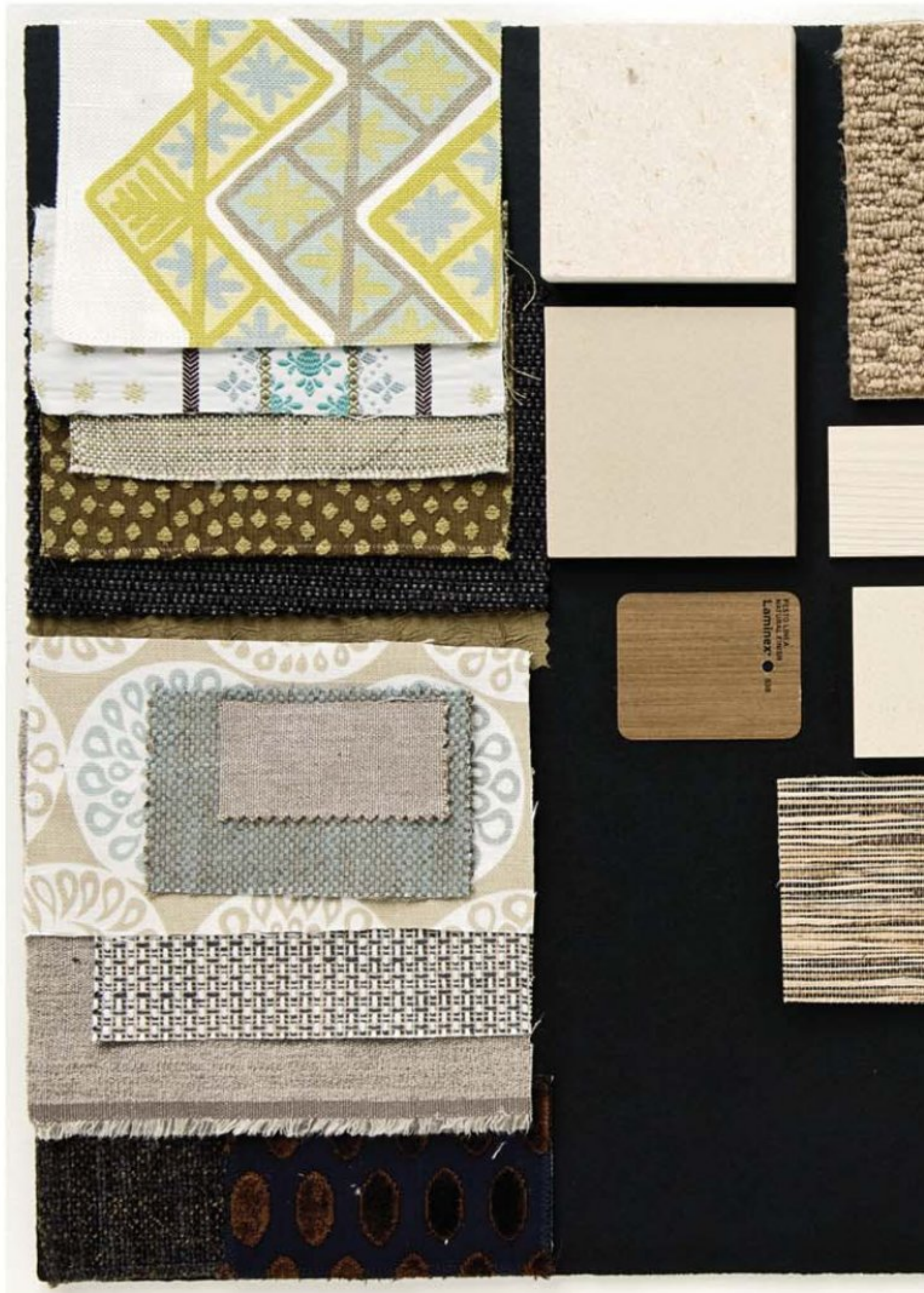
Whether you're renovating the whole house, a few rooms or just one space, having a master plan will save you time, effort and stress.

In interior designer terms, a master plan comes in the form of a swatch board – literally a board on which you paste samples of the colours, materials and fabrics you are going to use.

Debbie Abercrombie has put together this example, for a whole house renovation, which will give the finished result a cohesive look. Even if it takes you five years to complete a renovation, once you have created your swatch board, you can keep referring back to it to make sure you don't wander off track.

While some of the original products chosen may change, or become unavailable, you can always find new ones that fit with the rest of the board. Also, if you feel your tastes change slightly, you can modify the board to suit, without radically changing your direction and therefore ending up with a living room renovated last year that looks completely different to the bedroom you're planning for next year.

As well as products and colours for the board, Debbie says to collect magazine clippings, product brochures and images that you like, to put in a scrapbook or file box as these can also act as a guide when collecting your samples. For example, if you find yourself collecting ethnic-patterned images, you can then ask the various fabric showrooms for current examples of this style, and maybe end up with the Coyoacan fabric seen at the top of our board. >



words Sharon Newey pictures Mark Heaslip



Paint colours from top

All from the Resene The Range 2009

- Resene Sisal
- Resene Escapade
- Resene Allegro
- Resene Stowaway
- Resene Maxwell Smart
- Resene Alibi
- Resene Maxwell Smart
- Resene Quarter Silver Sand
- Resene Artefact
- Resene Noosa
- Resene Quarter Silver Sand

Fabric cuttings, from top

Meridian Coyoacan, colour Chartreuse from Mokum – use for feature chair or cushions; Meridian Moldova Stripe from Mokum – use for feature chair or cushions; Ficus, colour Green Tea from Mokum – use to cover sofa or chairs; Meridian Angkor watt from Mokum – use for feature chair or cushions; Tuscana from Mokum – use to cover sofa or chairs; James Dunlop Celine – use for curtains; Warwick Glitz – use for cushions; Meridian Matarita from Mokum – use for chair or cushions; Romo Peron, colour French Blue from Seneca – use to cover sofa or chairs; Souk, colour Marble from Mokum – use to cover sofa or chairs; Resene Curtain Collection Balance, colour Stone – use for curtains; Zimmer + Rohde New York from Mokum – use to cover sofa or chairs; Arosa from Mokum – use to cover sofa or chairs.

Flooring and laminate chips, from top

European Ceramics limestone; European Ceramics porcelain tile, Saxon Sand; Cavalier Bremworth Pebbledash wool carpet, colour Natural Tan; Bestwood Laminate Cape Cod woodgrain; Laminex Licorice Linea flint finish; Laminex Pesto Linea natural finish; Quarella Industrial Stone composite, colour Crema Clara; Innovations Alumina Metaltex metallic finish, and; Vision wallpaper, no 21411.



A good way to start… is to find an object to use as an inspiration.







Above Debbie Abercrombie has her own interior design consultancy, she teaches interior design at Te Tuhi Centre for the Arts in Pakuranga (www.tetuhi.org.nz), and was a tutor for five years with the Wellington Polytechnic Interior Design correspondence course.

1. A good way to start any interior design scheme is to find an object to use as inspiration. Here, we have used a shell but it could be anything – a flower or part of the garden, a painting, a view, a piece of fabric.

Debbie likes to gain her inspiration from nature: "Nature is never wrong. You will find that the colours found in nature, in the environment around you, always work well together."

Colours found within these objects are never simple. Most of us would assume a shell is white or cream, but this particular one also has burnt orange, blue/grey and deep brown as well as a couple of creamy tones. Forget your assumptions and look hard at the object you have found, to identify the various colours.

2. The next step is to then match those colours to corresponding Resene shades. You won't actually use all of these paints as some will only represent accent colours for upholstery or cushions, but this will give you a colour palette to keep referring back to.

Get the various testpots from your local Resene ColorShop and paint up A4 sheets of colour or buy Resene drawdowns. Then put them in order of the amount of space they will be in the room, ie use the whole A4 sheet for the colour/s you will use for the walls, and the colour that represents the floor, then place smaller strips of the other colours on top, ie those that represent the curtains, sofa coverings, kitchen cabinetry, cushions etc.

Here, Debbie has used Resene Quarter Silver Sand and Resene Sisal as her base colours, and overlaid the others in various proportions.

3. Once your colour palette is arranged, Debbie advises to always choose your floor coverings next – the timber, carpet and tiles. "The floor is the largest surface area, it's the greatest expense and the surface you are least likely to change in a hurry. This is the most important aspect to get right." And whatever you choose, lay it alongside the colour palette to make sure it fits in.

4. Next comes any other horizontal surfaces in the house, such as the kitchen benchtops, vanities and cabinetry. Again, lay your laminate chips or composite stone samples alongside your colour palette.

5. The final component of your board is the fabrics, for curtains and blinds, upholstery and cushions. This can be the most confusing part, with the plethora of fabrics on the market. Debbie advises choosing a couple of plain neutral fabrics as, say, the main window and sofa coverings, then using more interesting patterned fabrics for cushions and chairs.

In this scheme, while all of the fabrics work together, they are grouped into a darker, more formal cluster which would be good for a smaller sitting room or main bedroom, and a lighter, more casual cluster, perfect for a family room. H

keeping it simple

With so much choice in home renovation products, how on earth do you decide?

The word renovation sends most of us spiraling into equal parts excitement and dread. To visualise the big picture but successfully mastermind tiny details is a true art. Decisions you didn't dream of will be required, concerning products and processes of which you may currently be ignorant.

Renovating is not unlike getting married. It pays to know unequivocally what you do and don't like; to realise that those trends you adore now may or may not last. For those of us who prefer to personally lead a home project (as opposed to employing an interior designer), immediately apparent will be the mountain of information and plethora of choices.

"A thorough search of your own taste and motivation comes first."

But how to start? Trawl the internet first? Hot-foot it around shops every weekend for months? The best beginning may be neither. A thorough search of your own taste and motivation comes first, because this is all about you. Do you know the ideal scale of your alterations or additions? Do you have an exact figure to spend? Do you want the renovation to make the space seem bigger? Funkier? More elegant?

An equally great renovation precursor – one which helps to both broaden your horizons and hone preferences – is a visit to a Home Ideas Centre. The centres are year-round, static home-show exhibitions with no entry fee.

The Home Ideas Centres function almost like some clients' living rooms for the renovation's duration, according to national sales and marketing manager Vicki Grainger. People leave with wads of brochures to take home and discuss, slashing their internet search, shop haul and product-sourcing time.

Surely such exposure to choice could be stressful? Couldn't confusion result? Vicki disagrees. "People often realise we're here half-way through, and wish they'd come here before starting a project. Others know about us and call in as much as a year before beginning work, to have ample time and space for proper planning," Vicki says.

The selection process

List exactly what you want your renovation to achieve. Commit to paper specific functional aims like, 'cost-effective warmth throughout,' before moving onto aesthetic, stylistic preferences and favoured products. Think about open homes you've visited; magazine features you've admired. What did you envy and why? If you loved a particular deck or piece of furniture, note it down. A scheme can be designed around it!

Spend a little internet time on interior/exterior design sites. Home, building and design magazines all have their own sites. Dream a little. Try www.resene.co.nz, www.interiorsonline.co.nz, www.makeover.co.nz and www.shoppinginstyle.co.nz for starters.

Think about how eco-friendly your choices are. Are you considering solar water and underfloor heating, use of grey-water, optimal double glazing and insulation levels?

Quickly eliminate looks/styles/products you don't like, or which don't answer your overall aim. If you really love a particular finish or product, stand firm and question those who try to persuade you otherwise. Don't capitulate easily and then suffer regret!

Remember that details like trims and door-handles set an overall style, so give their selection due consideration and time; don't discount their importance.

Be happy to be individual in your taste. Adding a bold, confident or luxury item to your scheme will often lift an otherwise average renovation to new heights!

If you and your partner can't agree, resist compromising over one room in favour of each making design decisions about different spaces; an approach that's often more successful.

Choose the highest-quality products you can. Think about what will be stunning long-term. Take whatever time is needed to do it once and do it right. H

Resene Artefact

Resene Noosa

Resene Quarter Silver Sand

words Liesl Johnstone

hard times call for soft floors

When times are tough, we yearn for the comforts of home and the cosiness of soft furnishings like carpet.



Elysium shagpile (Urbane) from The Bremworth Collection



Dupion loop pile (Brun)

During times of economic recession, staying at home and 'cocooning' becomes a dominant trend. We might dine out less frequently but will entertain at home with family and friends. Evenings can be spent lounging around watching a movie with the family, having Playstation duels and Singstar competitions, or even playing classic board games. It's a time to create some memorable moments.

But in seeking out the comforts of home and literally spending more time there, the shortcomings of your home décor are brought into sharper focus. The cold starkness of the minimalist look isn't so inviting or nurturing. And what about the heating bills during the colder months?

If you want to create a warm and welcoming home environment this winter, one of the first places to address is your floor. Is it a place you're happy to lounge about on, sprawling out to read a magazine and have the children play on? Or is it a hard and noisy surface that doesn't create the sort of ambience you'd like? Let's hear it for a return to comfort and cosiness!

Cavalier Bremworth 100% wool carpet is one of the most affordable flooring options you can have – costing a lot less than most people think (just make sure you're comparing prices in square metres instead of linear metres which carpet can often be quoted in – simply divide the linear metre cost by 3.66, which is the width of a roll of carpet). It can be easily installed in a day, with carpet layers generally happy to move your furniture about for you.

100% wool carpet is also an excellent insulator, helping to reduce your heating bills and it retains the warmth of your home.

Resene Cannon Pink

Resene Matterhorn

Quality pays for itself

One of the most critical comparisons you'll need to make when choosing a carpet is the cost vs the return (both emotional and tangible) over your lifetime in your house. Quick do-ups for sale in recent years have seen a lot of low-quality, cheap carpet installed. It looks great on the day of the open home but won't last the distance, quickly becoming shabby and worn.

With the real estate boom over, staying in your home for a much longer time is going to become the norm. It means you'll need a quality carpet that will look good at least five years from now if you do decide to sell and move on. A Cavalier Bremworth extra heavy duty carpet gives you more wool per square centimetre than a lower grade carpet which means it looks better and lasts much longer.

Tactile and sensuous is in

There's no doubt there's been a return to sensuousness and softness in carpets in the past year. Cut piles are enjoying a resurgence and now they're becoming plusher and more textural. Shagpile has even made a return, although it's a more sophisticated, lower and denser carpet than its groovy counterpart from the 1960s.

Plush piles are very soft and velvety – and just like velvet, the fibres do exhibit light and dark shading effects on the floor. It's important to appreciate this before you buy.

Loop pile carpets always look smart and with a variety of textures and colours can enhance any style of décor. They're very family friendly, especially in the mid-tone and darker colours.

Combination cut and loop pile carpets are another way to create drama and interest on the floor and are a relatively new innovation. This style can be used throughout a whole house or mixed with a plush pile to create special zones of interest.

Cavalier Bremworth has the biggest range in the market so you can easily find a quality 100% wool carpet to suit your décor and lifestyle at a surprisingly affordable price. H

0800 808 303 www.cavbrem.co.nz

CAVALIER BREMWORTH



Velluto plush pile (Cashmere)


Oriel combination cut and loop pile (Moody Beige)



never say never

A valuer's poor assessment didn't faze the owners when renovating this classic 1970s beachfront house.





Above A gas fireplace replaces an old window in the living room while Resene Talisman provides a splash of colour to the chimney wall. The other walls are Resene Hillary.

Right Lorna with sons, Houston (3), Reuben (7) and Logan (6).

Resene Double Parchment

Resene Hillary

Resene Talisman

Going against the grain has never been much of an issue for Waikanae couple Lorna and Matene Love.

So when a valuer told them seven years ago that the beach-front property they'd just bought had 'absolutely no flow', they weren't too concerned. "He suggested we cover in the central courtyard to better connect the spaces," says Lorna, a property developer.

Thankfully, they chose to ignore his advice and now the open-air courtyard forms the heart of the sprawling home they share with their three sons, Reuben (7), Logan (6) and Houston (3), as well as dogs Barney and Trudi.

Besides, Lorna and her husband, a former junior All Black and founder/director of Maori clothing company Kia Kaha, had enough on their plates.

Built in 1973, the Fritz Eisenhofer-designed house's mouldy walls and exposed ceilings were badly in need of repair when the couple bought it. But what really sold them were the expansive, private beach views, and the dynamics of the house.

"It's a classic Eisenhofer in that it consisted of four smaller bedrooms but large living spaces. The basic layout worked for us, it just needed some tweaking."

That 'tweaking' turned out to involve four extensions, 15 months and an increase in the home's footprint from 490sqm to a generous 550sqm. Not to mention re-piling, re-wiring, re-roofing and re-cladding the entire property in board and battens.

Their brief to draftsman Ben Gilpin was clear: they needed another bedroom, a bathroom for the kids, an ensuite for the master bedroom, and a new informal lounge-cum-dining room. The latter borrowed space from the overly generous courtyard, and now provides the family with ample space to entertain.

>

words Sharon Stephenson
pictures Nicola Edmonds





"The basic layout worked for us, it just needed some tweaking."

The one area of the house that managed to escape the sledgehammer was the kitchen. However, Lorna was adamant that the turquoise benchtops and joinery had to go, so Resene Tobacco Brown was used to bring the kitchen into the 21st century. She also replaced the home's brown aluminium windows with white joinery, which added a sense of much-needed light.

Beyond the kitchen is the former formal dining room that now serves as the playroom and kids' television room. On the other side of the wall is what Lorna calls the adult living room, where she and Matene usually retire after the kids have gone to bed.

The couple decided to keep the existing entrance and hallway, which snakes around the courtyard. They then added a new wing to the eastern wall containing a bathroom, toilet and oldest son Reuben's room.

It's also where colour consultant Heather Thorley suggested introducing a splash of colour, so the three boys' bedrooms now sport bright walls painted in Resene Hathaway (yellow) and Resene Jigsaw (green).

In the master bedroom, the brief was to do away with the existing 'three poky spaces' that fitted a bed and little else. They achieved

their desire for an open, light-filled space by knocking down two walls and installing three generous skylights, as well as relocating a tiny, windowless bathroom into the new extension. They also turned a spare cupboard into a walk-in wardrobe.

A major issue was what to do with the staircase that connects this living room with the library which enjoys impressive sea views. Says Lorna: "Because of its odd shape, the staircase took up most of the room, meaning that it was virtually unusable."

So builder Phil Wynward re-aligned the staircase entrance, while the wall behind it has been painted in Resene Pohutukawa to provide contrast.

The removal of a window on the eastern wall has made room for a gas fireplace, and Resene Talisman provides a splash of colour to the chimney breast wall. The addition of three high windows in the adjacent wall lets in much needed light.

When it came to the courtyard, the couple ripped out the old spa pool and extended the decking that leads from the informal living room. They also increased access to the space from the front door, giving their home the flow it was so sorely lacking. >

Far left A kid's living area sits beyond the kitchen.

Middle The dining room, in Resene Double Parchment, is part of a large informal space that's perfect for entertaining.

Below left Three poky spaces became one light-filled master bedroom, now painted Resene Martini.

Below A sunny shade of yellow, Resene Hathaway, is perfect for the boys' bedrooms.

Resene Hathaway

Resene Jigsaw

Resene Martini

Resene Tobacco Brown







Above Large windows and decks respond to the house's seaside location.

While Lorna runs the couple's property development business from home, Matene combines lecturing at Victoria University with his work at Kia Kaha. They both, therefore, needed separate office spaces which they achieved by turning an upstairs sewing room into Matene's office, while Lorna opted for the office downstairs.

Ask Lorna to describe her style and she'll say "simple, but with a modern twist". When it came to decorating the house, she admits she relied heavily on colour consultant Heather Thorley of Colour Options.

"Matene is colour blind, so he wasn't going to be any help! But I worked closely with Heather to select quite a neutral palette." This includes using Resene Double Parchment for most of the interior walls, Resene Triple Parchment for the skirting, door and window frames, and Resene Double Napa for the doors.

Although it's taken some time to achieve their dream home, the family says it's been more than worth it.

In fact, it was such a painless process that they're keen to launch into another round of renovations which will see the kitchen/dining area further opened up. But, says Lorna, that might have to wait until the boys are a bit older… H

Did you know? Keep your wooden deck looking good – stain with Resene Kwila Timber Stain or Resene Woodsman to enhance its natural good looks.



Get the look with Resene Lumbersider tinted to Resene Double Bison Hide.

Resene Double Bison Hide

Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen tinted to Resene Hathaway.

Resene Hathaway

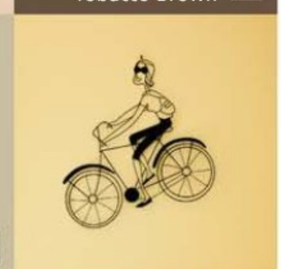


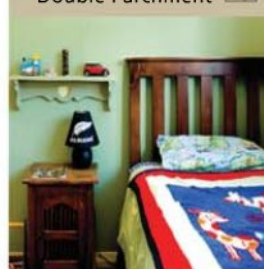


Kitchen cabinets: Resene Tobacco Brown

Resene Tobacco Brown

Resene Double Parchment





Reuben's room: Resene Jigsaw

Resene Jigsaw

Resene Pohutukawa

turn the page for two alternative style solutions


CRIMSAFE
KEEPS ALL
KINDS OF
PESTS OUT...





^ The walls and ceilings in this solution are Resene Bianca. The fireplace wall is Resene Blackout.

Resene Quarter Grey Olive

illustration Bruce Bryant

Lazy Girl chair

Fiona McLeod Design
www.fionamcleoddesign.co.nz
09 378 1818



>

MID sofa

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
09 368 7694

>

Black Cow Hide rug

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
09 368 7694



Resene Vibe

Resene Bianca

Resene Blackout

Resene Karma



<

Flameboyant Solitaire gas fire

Inovo
www.inovo.co.nz
09 379 7399



>

UFO floor lamps

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
09 368 7694

<

Replica Noguchi Coffee Table

Forma
www.forma.co.nz
09 368 7694





Fiona McLeod

of Fiona McLeod Design
suggests this alternative scheme:

Based on a striking colour scheme of red, white and black, this room is full of personality, character and contemporary style. Despite its clean lines and uncluttered nature, it has a richness introduced by the red upholstery, glossy hide rug, timber floors, gas fire and glowing lamps. The re-styled Lazy Girl chair introduces a bit of fun and sex-appeal, and is an example of my passion for refurbishing retro pieces of furniture. It's a scheme of understated glamour and just a little bit cheeky.

phone 09 378 1818 **email** fiona@fionamcleoddesign.co.nz





^ The walls in this solution are Resene Secrets, while those beside the fireplace are Resene Woodstock. Ceilings and trims are Resene Quarter Silver Sand.

Resene Ecru White

illustration Bruce Bryant





<<

Emotion chaise sofa

Country Theme
www.countrytheme.co.nz
09 522 2626

<

Fijian display cabinet

Why Pay More Furniture
09 273 8877



>

Fold-out coffee table

Gascoigne Furniture
www.gascoignefurniture.co.nz
09 274 6670

>

Metal art

Gascoigne Furniture
www.gascoignefurniture.co.nz
09 274 6670



Resene Quarter Silver Sand

Resene Secrets

Resene Drumbeat

Resene Woodstock



Auvia clock

Freedom Furniture
www.freedomfurniture.co.nz
0800 373 336



Buco water hyacinth bowl

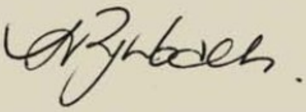
Freedom Furniture
www.freedomfurniture.co.nz
0800 373 336



Sandra Van Rynbach

of Residential Colour & Design suggests this alternative scheme:

As the room has three high windows to let in lots of natural light, it can take a more adventurous colour scheme. Relaxed pieces of furniture, such as the chaise lounge, and earthy colours help create a 'get back to nature' feeling while the recessed walls in Resene Woodstock create a backdrop for the cabinet and console table. The colour difference between the trim colour Resene Quarter Silver Sand and the main walls in Resene Secrets is deliberate to give a feeling of increased space while the wall colour also helps highlight the intricacies of the metal art.



phone 09 535 9739 **mobile** 027 205 1949 **email** vanrynbachs@clear.net.nz

it's not finished till it's covered

A little inspiration and a lot of hard work are what most homeowners say are the secrets to successful renovations.

While you may look to your *Habitat* magazine, rather than your insurance company, for the inspiration behind your home design, it's also important to ensure you have the right level of insurance cover while you are renovating your home.

Whether you are building a new home, or altering an existing house, along with the architect, the council, the bank and, of course, the contractors – plumber, builder, plasterer, painter – it is important that you remember to contact your insurance company.

Get the right level of cover

The scope of your renovations will determine what kind of insurance cover you need. When the renovations are considered to be minor, your existing House policy may cover you, however it is important to check with your insurance company. Minor work that may be covered under your existing House policy includes:

- relining interior walls with plasterboard
- stripping and sanding floors
- laying new carpet and vinyl
- renovating a bathroom or kitchen
- rewiring and replumbing
- replacing spouting
- building a deck
- laying a new driveway

Please check the terms and conditions of your policy with your current insurer.

For more extensive projects involving substantial construction, you may be required to take out a separate construction policy. This is usually required where there is a greater risk of causing damage to your existing house, such as when you are:

- adding a new room
- extending an existing room
- adding another level to your house

House Construction Insurance provides cover for accidental damage or loss to your house while it is being built or altered. Some builders may hold Contracts Work Insurance, however it is important to check with your builder and confirm the level of cover they can offer you.

AMI Insurance offers a specific House Construction Policy (HCP), underwritten by IAG, designed especially for customers who are in the process of building a new house or altering an existing home. Available to all AMI customers, this policy covers all homes for residential use. "AMI offers a specific policy for these circumstances because it is a different risk," says AMI's Manager of Products, John McSweeney. He points out that this type of policy offers a range of optional benefits that are unique to this type of cover, making it different from your normal House insurance policy.

During your renovations, things don't always go according to plan. If your house is accidentally damaged during renovations you may incur additional costs such as:

- removal of debris
- redesign costs from architects and engineers
- higher construction costs due to an increase in materials and labour
- extra charges such as overtime or express delivery of materials in order to complete the project by the original finish date

A separate House Construction Policy could protect you from these costs.

When talking to your insurance company about the level of cover you require, ensure you clarify the following points:

- maximum duration of project
- maximum sum insured
- your insurance company's acceptance criteria, e.g. depth of excavations and height of building
- location of building site, e.g. a property on a slope will have a different risk to a property on a flat section.

Don't assume, ask – you don't want to be caught short when something goes wrong.

Please ensure you read your full policy document wording to understand the terms and conditions of the cover provided by your insurer.

Smile, the renovations are complete

With the look just right, before you sit back and relax remember to contact your insurance company again.

Inform your insurance company when the work is complete. Once your renovations or alterations are complete, you should revert back to a standard House policy offered by your insurer. AMI has two levels of House insurance cover, each designed to give you the protection you need at a price that suits you.

Make sure your new extension is covered. Depending on your policy, your level of cover will be determined by either the value of your house or the floor area of the house. Make sure you contact your insurance company as you will only be covered for the value or floor size stated on your policy schedule.

Don't forget about your Contents cover. Most people find that renovations and alterations are a good excuse to upgrade or buy additional furnishings and appliances. Speak to your insurance company about increasing your sum insured on your Contents policy.

Whether you are renovating an inner city apartment or a grand old villa, it is important to make sure your meticulously detailed plan includes your insurance requirements. Knowing you have the right level of cover before you start your renovations will allow you to concentrate on creating the perfect space to suit your lifestyle.

For more information and a competitivie quote, call AMI today on 0800 100 200. H


Before


After

Above A living room is transformed with Resene Double Alabaster and Resene Half Spanish White.

top tip

Contact your insurance company before you start work on your house, as once your alterations have commenced you may not get the cover you need.

Also remember to ask your insurance company about your floorcoverings as these may be covered under your Contents policy rather than your House policy.

Resene Half Spanish White

Resene Root Beer

Resene Tarot

winner goes whimsical

The standard of entries to our laundry competiton was overwhelming but we managed to pick our winning entries.

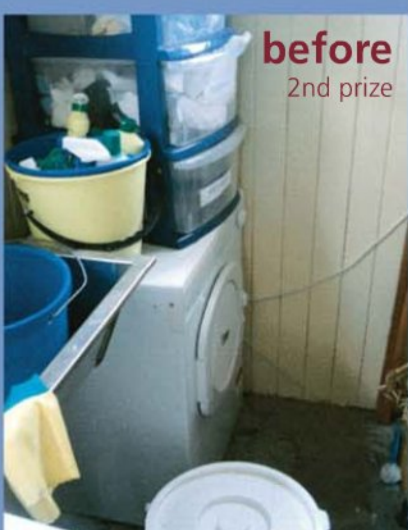
It's often the neglected room of the house – the laundry. A place where you go purely to do chores, a place hidden round the back of the house, in the garage or in a cupboard.

Which is why in our last issue (Summer 08) Resene and Electrolux decided it was time to turn the spotlight on laundries and challenge you to redesign your own. We offered the successful participants three prizes including the latest washing machine and dryers from Electrolux, as well as room-lots of paint from Resene.

You responded with overwhelming creativity and professionalism, which made the judging difficult. There were large families who were in desperate need, couples whose laundries were also the cattery, and even a poor woman who had to balance between the bumper bar of the truck and a stool in order to reach the dryer.

But choose we did, and photographs of the renovated laundries will be published in the next issue of *Habitat*.

Our lucky first prize winner is Alice Domett Doyle of Wellington, whose whimsical eco-friendly solution used black, white (Resene Merino) and metallic silver paint (Resene Silver Aluminium).



Once completed, the walls are to be adorned with stencils of clothes hanging on a line, and the front of the tub will have Resene Blackboard Paint to keep the kids amused or to bear this week's poem. Flax kites will hang from the walls for pegs and gardening items that need transporting.

Carter Holt Harvey Products has also chipped in with some free Bestwood Melamine in Mist Grey for our winner.

The second prize winner is Amanda Hereaka, also of Wellington, whose colourful solution is inspired by the Art Deco origins of the house and the artworks of Piet Mondrian. She will use blocks of colour such as Resene Soapstone and Resene Fast Lane, perhaps joined by Resene Pattens Blue, Resene Blue Night and Resene Moon Glow, depending on the surfaces and size available.

Third prize goes to Peter Ensor of Auckland, whose cupboard-style laundry is next to the kitchen and will get a fresh coat of Resene Chill Out and Resene Half Spanish White. His exhaustive research of appliances and paint found that Resene and Electrolux matched his family's needs for environmental awareness, noise control and energy efficiency. H



Resene Delta Blue

Resene Merino

top tip

Resene produces a paint specially for damp areas like laundries. Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom combines anti-bacterial silver protection and MoulDefender mould inhibitor, perfect for minimising unwanted nasties in kitchens, bathrooms and laundries.



IT'S NOT FINISHED
'TIL IT'S COVERED.
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top tips

Turn appliances off at the wall where practical.

Turn off your heated towel rail overnight.

Switch to the new generation energy-efficient light bulbs.

Consider a low-flow showerhead.

Make sure your hot water cylinder is set at 55°C.

Switch to cold-wash cycles for your clotheswashing.

power to the people

As winter approaches, we're faced with that seasonal dilemma: how to effectively save power, and therefore money.

You've just enjoyed another warm and lovely summer, so the arrival of your power bill is hardly going to make you bat an eyelid. Even without opening it you know that with no heating used, lights hardly switched on, washing hung out to dry on the line and the barbecue frequently used for cooking, the bill will be satisfyingly low.

However, in two months time it can be quite a different story. The weather only has to turn a bit wet, then the clocks go back and, hey, it's on with the lights, chuck the clothes in the dryer, switch on the dehumidifier, plug in your heater and that bill has doubled in size, or even trebled by mid-winter. While most of this energy usage is necessary, it is possible to trim your winter energy bill without compromising on warmth and comfort.

So where to start? Well before you rush to turn off the heater, it can be worthwhile taking time to assess exactly how much each appliance in your house is currently costing you to run. Happily this is very easy to do and, dare it be said, even fun. Just log on to the Government's website www.energywise.org.nz and take a home energy audit. You will be taken on a tour of an average house, room by room, with all the appliances likely to be found in each room, letting you indicate how frequent your usage is. From there, the running cost of each item is calculated and advice given on how to make savings.

Compare, for instance, the difference in price if everybody in your house has a five-minute shower a day as opposed to a couple of longer ones, or a bath. Is your washing machine always stuck on the 40°C wash cycle? See the money you can save just by changing to a 30°C wash – it's a surprising 20 cents each wash.

The typical household apparently spends around 29% of its energy costs on heating water, so you can see why they ask if your water is at the recommended temperature of 55°C. Even 5°C over that will cost you an extra 5-10% more on your energy bill a year. Some of the saving tips recommended will cost you money to apply, like insulating your hot-water tank and pipes or changing your showerhead to a low-flow model, but will also gain you the biggest savings. It's estimated that a low-flow showerhead, which gives the same water pressure as traditional models but uses substantially less water can save up to $500 a year.

Skylights can play a role in energy saving – for passive solar gain, for light (skylights allow in twice as much light as vertical windows of the same size), for reducing the needs for mechanical cooling and ventilation, and for heat loss (Velux skylights, for example, have a higher insulation rating than double glazed vertical windows).

Another eye-opener is fridges – or to be precise the cost of running old fridges. Many people upgrade their fridge and then put the old one in the garage to use as a beer fridge and to store frozen meat. On one hand this can seem to be making good use of old equipment, however the cost of running an old fridge (especially one more than 10 years old) which is unlikely to be very energy efficient, can be around $300 more a year than a modern model.

If you're about to purchase a new fridge look for the most energy-efficient models and take advantage of the Government's pilot project, where old fridges are taken away for free (they have to be in working order and at least five years old) and you get $25 towards your new one.

Then there's the interesting question of whether turning off appliances at the wall, as opposed to leaving on standby, genuinely makes a real saving. The answer is definitely yes, though the amount really depends on just how many appliances your household use on standby.

Take into consideration which ones are practical to turn off at the wall, you obviously don't want the hassle of switching off a radio alarm and having to reset it each time, though be aware that it takes more electricity to keep your DVD player on standby for a year than it actually uses playing DVDs.

So if you're a typical household with several appliances on standby (televisions, gaming consoles, phone chargers, power tool chargers, stereos, microwaves, washing machines, dishwashers) you could save around $75 a year just by getting into the habit of switching them off at the socket.

And while you're in the mood for changing habits another good one to adopt is switching off heated towel rails for part of each day; there's another nifty saving of $100 to be made this way. H

Seeing the light

While the National Government has overturned Labour legislation to phase out old incandescent bulbs and replace them with energy-saving models, reviewing your light bulb usage is always a good idea.

You may remember the early energy saving models, typically of curly design, which were slow to warm up and then didn't always give bright enough light. Never fear, the current models have been hugely improved upon and can be found in a wide range of sizes and shapes to suit almost all light fittings.

The most common energy efficient light bulb is the compact fluorescent lamp (CFL). This is great to use for general household lighting and can be bought in two different tones, 'warm white' for creating mood lighting or 'cool white' for brightness. CFLs use 80% less energy than traditional bulbs and last many, many times longer – a good quality CFL should give you 10,000 hours of lighting, compared to only 1000 for old style bulbs.

Unlike traditional light bulbs that waste energy by getting hot, CFLs run much cooler, which is why they save you so much energy. Until recently you couldn't use them with dimmer switches, but this is now possible with the addition of a range known as 'new generation halogen incandescent light bulbs'. While not as energy efficient as CFLs, they will still save you 30% less energy than old bulbs and last twice as long.

Light emitting diodes, better known as LED lights, are most commonly associated with bicycle lamps and torches, but this technology is making its way into the home, currently in the form of spotlights and downlights. At present LED lighting can be fairly expensive to install but has the potential to revolutionise home lighting. With the ability to last between 50,000 and 100,000 hours, it may mean the chore of changing light bulbs will be a thing of the past.

Resene Green Room

Resene Moonbeam

words Jo Gaught **picture** iStock

Resene Highlight

Resene Streetwise

Resene Trinidad



of books and bunks

Clever storage ideas that have been brought to life with paint.

^ This bookcase cleverly combines shelves and hidden storage. It features in a Wairarapa Coast bach, designed by architect Andrew Sexton. The bach won an NZ Institute of Architects Resene Colour Award and uses ply and a mix of coloured laminate (the orange and green cupboard doors) and other blue doors painted in Resene Hullabaloo.

V This may look like an elevated bunk-style bed, but it's not only that, but a clever storage pod as well. When Sam, now eight, badgered his mother Michelle Elsmore for a bunk bed, her first reaction was 'no'. She was keen, however, to keep toy storage separate from clothes storage in the wardrobe, so the idea of a raised bed with storage beneath was born – and was designed by Michelle, with help from her cabinetmaker dad, Barry Blamey. It was his idea to have the pull-out trolley, which can be wheeled out into the room. With the bed being a metre wide, the three drawers would have been too deep for easy access, so instead, a spare bed is slotted in behind for when mates come to stay. Another clever feature is









the pull-out tray which acts as a bedside table-top for drinks and books. To finish it off, the bed was painted in blocks of bright colour – Resene Guardsman Red, Resene Trinidad (orange), Resene Wham (green) and Resene Zomp (turquoise).

Λ When Michelle Elsmore and her late husband Peter renovated their house, one side of the new study ended up with a perfect bookcase-shaped space. The only other furniture in the room was a desk so they needed hidden storage to be included in the full-height bookcase as well. One of Michelle's pet hates, however, is the standard bookcase configuration where cupboards are arranged across the bottom, with shelves above. Instead, she chose to scatter the cupboards throughout the bookcase, and paint each one a different colour – something that was more difficult to choose than you would think. "I drove Pete mad with my endless testpots and painted samples." The main shelf colour is the same as the room – Resene Buttery White from the Karen Walker range – while the cupboards are Resene Red Berry, Resene Streetwise and Resene Highball. Michelle used press catches rather than handles for a more streamlined look. H

words Sharon Newey **pictures** Mark Heaslip/Patrick Reynolds



from cardy to kitchen

The fresh green of this kitchen was inspired by the colour of the owner's… cardigan!

It's not often that a cardigan dictates a colour scheme, but that's how Jacqui and Graham Nelson ended up with their Resene Spirulina kitchen.

Jacqui had been working with kitchen designer James Smaling to develop a colour scheme for the kitchen, in the couple's home in Nikau Valley, north of Wellington. "I fell in love with the colour of my new cardigan and told my husband I wanted to use that same tone in the kitchen," says Jacqui.

"He wasn't too sure, but James and I managed to find the Resene colour that matched it as closely as possible." To complement the cabinets, the walls are painted Resene Acropolis (Resene Half Tea), the architraves are Resene Triple Tea and the tongue-and-groove doors are Resene Dark Slate.

It's certainly a contrast from the kitchen of their last home: "That kitchen was chocolate and burgundy with grey walls – it was very dark and had a totally different feel to this kitchen."

One thing Jacqui did want to replicate from their previous home was the kitchen layout. "The galley style of kitchen really works for us because it's so practical."

In fact, with a busy household of teenagers – including identical twins William and Michael (17) and daughter Lizzie (18), along with a menagerie of pets – everything had to be practical.

Hence, the double living areas that flank the open-plan kitchen space ("The kids can be in one and we can be in another!") and details like the walk-in pantry that the couple fitted out with stainless steel benchtops and shelving found at a catering auction.

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words Sharon Stephenson **pictures** Nicola Edmonds



Another non-negotiable was having wide drawers instead of cupboards, and having no shelving above benchtop level.

Did you know? Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom combines anti-bacterial silver protection and MoulDefender mould inhibitor, perfect for minimising unwanted nasties in kitchens, bathrooms and laundries.

Left Jacqui chose a terrazzo-style benchtop for the island to reduce glare and because she loved the textural look.

Far left The galley-style layout is practical for a busy family.

Below left Living areas flank the kitchen in the light and airy space.

Below Open racked shelving lets Jacqui display her collection of Le Creuset cookware.

Resene Fast Lane

Resene Flashback

Resene Half Tea

Resene Spirulina





"It means we can leave appliances like the toaster out permanently, so the kids and their friends can go in there and then we can shut the door and hide the mess!"

When it came to the kitchen counters, Jacqui opted for stainless steel on one side and a terrazzo-style composite for the island. "I like the mix of textures and besides, the glare would have been unbearable if we'd used stainless steel on all the surfaces."

Another non-negotiable was having wide drawers instead of cupboards, and having no shelving above benchtop level. "Cupboards on the walls would have closed the space in and distracted from the lovely views of native bush and grazing cattle that the kitchen enjoys."

One of Jacqui's prime bugbears was finding a place to put the mail and assorted other household paperwork. So she asked architect Peter Davis to incorporate a filing-drawer in the kitchen cabinetry. "It works perfectly and I haven't lost a bill yet!"

A keen cook, Jacqui also wanted to incorporate the butler's sink she'd fallen in love with in her last home, and to have two single under-bench ovens rather than her previous over-size oven. "Having two single ovens is far more practical than the one big one we had, and I'm glad we stuck to our guns on this one."

She's also pleased the kitchen designer solved the dilemma of what to do with her collection of Le Creuset cookware. "I've collected it over the years and the colours are just so beautiful, I didn't want to hide them away. Luckily we came up with this pull-out shelf that displays them beautifully." H

Below Retro accessories match the mood of the kitchen.



Oven: Ariston

Kitchen designer: James Smaling, JS Kitchens, Palmerston North www.jskitchens.co.nz

Architect: Peter Davis

Resene Edward





Dishwasher: Fisher & Paykel Dishdrawers

Fridge/freezer: Fisher & Paykel

www.fisherpaykel.co.nz

Resene Flashback

Benchtop: Advante Koris, colour Matterhorn, from Mercer Products www.mercers.co.nz

Kitchen joinery: Resene Spirulina

Resene Spirulina





Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom (walls) and Resene Lustacryl (trims and joinery) tinted to Resene Acropolis (Resene Half Tea) and Resene Triple Tea.

Resene Triple Tea

Doors: Resene Dark Slate

Colour Consultant: Heather Thorley, Colour Options www.colouroptions.co.nz

Resene Dark Slate



Resene Fast Lane



viva le pacifica

A pampering yet practical bathroom blends French overtones with Pacific style.

In an era when so many bathrooms are awash with tiles and sleek with contemporary style, this renovated space is not only refreshingly gorgeous but so perfectly in tune with the house in which it sits.

The house is unusual – built in double brick at around 1910 by an Australian builder who bought Federation influences with him from across the Tasman and merged them with classic Kiwi villa characteristics. It's one of a handful of such houses, all in a row in Auckland's Mt Eden and now dubbed The Seven Sisters.

When the current owners, Marg and Michael Wood, began renovations, they wanted to modernise the bathroom but not with a clinical result. "So many bathrooms are clinical and gloomy. I wanted it to be simple and uncluttered but friendly and welcoming," says Marg.

A bathroom needs to be functional, she says. It's a business-like room but that doesn't mean it can't have character.

The house had been renovated in past decades by owners who added varnished rimu tongue-and-groove panelling to the bathroom. Rather than strip this out, Marg used it to advantage by painting it in Resene Mischka, a soft slate blue. The walls above the panelling are painted in Resene Seashell.

Marg was keen to keep the colour scheme simple – white, blue/grey and black – so rather than have natural floorboards, she chose to paint them in Resene Black, then further protect them with a coat of polyurethane.

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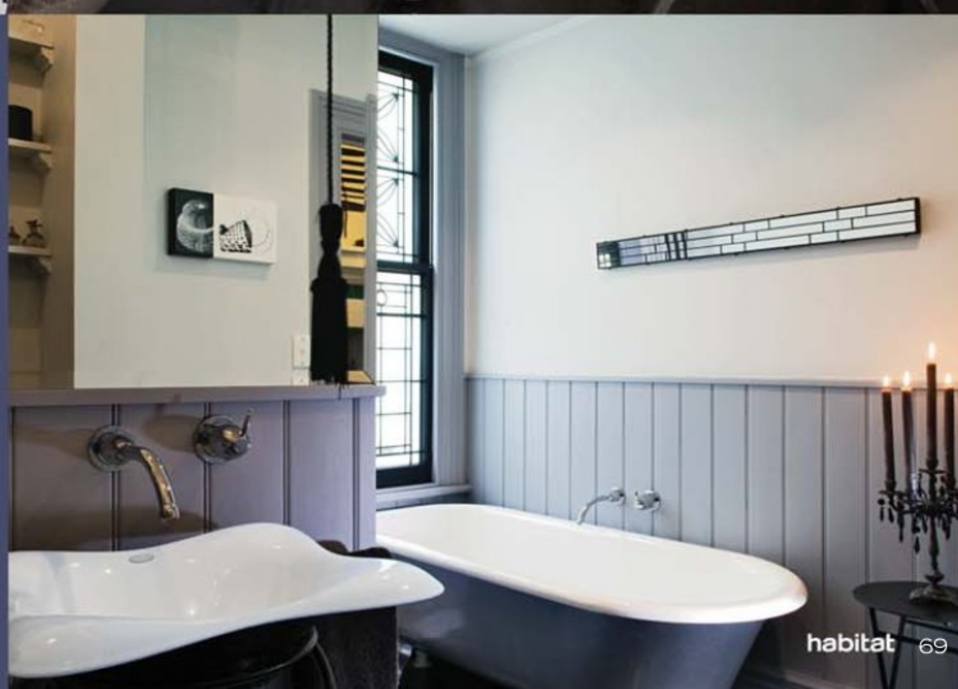
words Sharon Newey pictures Mark Heaslip

Above The striking window was inspired by tapa cloth.

Right The room has been cleverly laid out around its tricky L shaped space.

Above right Rimu paneling from an earlier renovation was painted out in Resene Mischka.

Resene
Enigma





Above A basin on a wrought iron stand adds whimsy.

The floor was possibly the trickiest aspect of the bathroom to achieve. Says Marg: "We tried to get tradespeople to do what we wanted but they kept applying washes. We wanted to paint out the floorboards altogether. We wanted a solid colour, so one night at 10 o'clock, my husband and I got down and did it ourselves."

Although the bathroom has a somewhat French flavour with its ornate basin and pretty collection of antique perfume bottles displayed on a glass shelf, it also has strong Pacific references. A new stained glass window was commissioned from Glassworks (the same glass artists who made the Auckland Cathedral windows) to emulate a tapa pattern.

Says Marg: "I wanted the window to be the focal point. It's quite large so it needed a special treatment. It works beautifully, letting in lots of natural light but also giving privacy." There is also a tapa flower artwork on the wall.

The gorgeous handbasin and stand is an American Standard brand bought at LG Carder, and the wrought iron table and candelabra are from French Country Collections.

Although dating back to 1914, the clawfoot bath is also an American Standard brand, apparently one of only 14 bought into the country that year. "The resurfacing man got quite excited about it."

The unusual L shape of the room left no room for a shower, so that is located in a second bathroom nearby, which has a second toilet and handbasin.

Marg doesn't rely on just towels and the usual accessories to dress up both bathrooms. For example, an arrangement of round balls on the floor is actually made up of paperweights. The whole effect is a clever blend of feminine and masculine, pampering yet practical. H

Did you know? Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom combines anti-bacterial silver protection and MoulDefender mould inhibitor, perfect for minimising unwanted nasties in kitchens, bathrooms and laundries.



Wrought iron table and candelabra: French Country Collections

Resene Enigma

Window: Glassworks www.glassworks.co.nz

Resene Sage



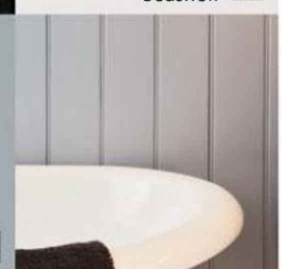


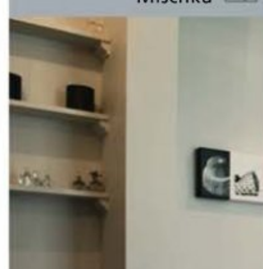
Basin: American Standard

Resene Seashell

Get the look with Resene SpaceCote Low Sheen Kitchen & Bathroom (walls) and Resene Lustacryl (trims and joinery) tinted to Resene Mischka.

Resene Mischka





Resene Afterburner

Resene Black





big change for small change

With a little planning you can rejuvenate your living space in a weekend for $200 or less!

If you're tired of your current house but don't want to move in this uncertain market, but also can't justify spending lots of money renovating, don't despair. At the very least a clean and declutter will work wonders and once things are cleaner and emptier, it may be easier to decide on what your next step might be.

Clean and declutter

A good spring clean can do wonders. Thoroughly clean everything from windows to curtains, and dust in places which normally escape more regular cleaning.

If your paths and driveway have become home to lichen and the like, apply Resene Deep Clean, following the instructions on the bottle, and leave it to do its work. Resene Deep Clean will, over time, loosen the lichen. If you're too impatient to wait, try Resene Paint Prep and Housewash for an instant clean of exterior surfaces – the house as well as your paths. Don't forget to clean the soffits – they are generally protected from the rain and can accumulate a lot of dirt. Or, hire a waterblaster for a day to clean the driveway and paths.

If you've finished the outside or that seems a daunting place to start, cleaning fingermarks off your walls inside with Resene Interior Paintwork Cleaner can make a huge difference to how fresh your home looks. Consider hiring a carpet shampooer regularly.

If you have items that are getting in the way, detracting from the look of the room or are just collecting dust, get rid of them. Don't just put them away in a cupboard; get rid of them altogether.

A good clean-out can also make you money if you sell unnecessary items on websites like TradeMe. Charities like the Salvation Army always welcome good condition used items and many of them will collect for free.

If you are a hoarder, consider lending things to family members who may have a use for them, or else put a date tag on unused items. If you haven't used it within six months, you probably never will.

Rearrange and rug up

Rearrange your furniture to give your interiors a new lease on life. In the living room, avoid foot traffic running directly through your conversation area. A new rug can give a space a fresh look. They're also a way of covering up unsightly stains on carpet or of saving wear and tear on a much-used part of the carpet.

Rugs are also a useful way to define spaces – such as conversation areas in your home in larger open plan areas.

If you have off-cuts of your carpet, consider getting the edges finished to use as mats for entry and exit points – particularly by sliding or bifolding doors leading to decks. These protect carpet, can be used for warmth and comfort on hard flooring, and won't clash with your existing décor.

A pep-up with paint

One way to get a new look with minimum investment is to repaint the room. If the ceiling and trims are in good condition, then just concentrate on the walls.



A simple colour change on one wall can make an incredible difference to the room without a lot of work or expense.

Far left Changing the wall colour is an easy way to make over a room. This is, from left, Resene Poprock, Resene Wild Thing and Resene Fiji Green.

Left An alcove painted in Resene Red Red Red gives this bedroom a focal point.

If your room is looking a bit hodge-podge, create a focal point. This may be the wall behind the bed, or a fireplace wall. Consider using a striking colour for that wall, then choose appropriate artwork or accessories to complement it. A simple colour change on one wall can make an incredible difference to the room without a lot of work or expense.

If you feel creative, try paint effect techniques, stencilling or have a go at creating stripes by masking out areas to paint in different colours. Grab a Resene The Range 2009 fandeck for the latest Resene colours plus tips on matching colours.

The best thing about paint is that if it doesn't turn out quite as envisaged, you can easily paint over it.

Outside, consider repainting your front door, garage door, letterbox and feature pots and planters if you are after a quick new look. Staining your deck and wooden furniture (or giving it a fresh coat of paint) can also do wonders for the entrance and entertaining areas of your house.

The larger the area being decorated, the greater the impact, which is why paint can have such a striking effect. One can of paint can go a very long way.

Accessorise

A few cushions, a new ornament or vase, can do wonders for the look of your room, and requires minimal effort apart from some wandering around stores to find the right item.

Or refresh your favourite photos by investing in new photo frames or switch the frames around on existing photos. If you like the frame design but are tired of the colour, use Resene testpots to repaint them.

>



Above Clever arrangements of accessories add interest to corners of the room.

Add coloured towels and accessories to a bland bathroom – these small rooms don't take much to liven up. Try to choose accessories that are not overly detailed, to keep such a small space looking less cluttered.

In the dining room, a new table runner or centrepiece can rejuvenate the space quickly and easily.

Cover and rejuvenate

If your sofa upholstery is looking tired but you can't afford to invest in new furniture, consider a slipcover. This is a great option for those with kids and pets as the cover or sheet can be thrown into the wash. Similarly in the bedroom, the duvet is generally a key feature of the room so a new one will make a big difference.

Consider repainting tired furniture. Generally, this can be done in a day with minimal paint. Or if you want an antique look, try out some of the Resene Paint Effects techniques (see the Resene website or pick up a brochure from a Resene ColorShop) for an aged effect or crackle effect. If you need more furniture but can't afford to buy new, buy second-hand from garage sales or online, and then repaint them.

Cleaning and painting the kitchen cabinetry doors and replacing the handles with something more modern may be all you need to makeover your kitchen. Or remove a few doors and turn the cupboards into display shelves, either with a neutral coloured background or splash out with a bolder colour.

DIY art

If your walls look a little barren but you can't afford expensive artwork, create your own. You can now buy pre-primed artist canvases at very reasonable prices. A series of canvases each painted a different colour or colours with a bold geometric or splash pattern may be all you need to jazz up a room.

Get your children involved. Paint a base colour onto the canvas to suit the room scheme and then select some other colours for your child to work with. Family photos and artwork can also be transferred onto canvas, by canvas art companies. These can be an ideal way to create a striking work of art for the walls using favourite family keepsakes rather than hiding them away in albums and drawers.

Mirrors and lights

Mirrors can make a small space seem much larger. When hanging a mirror make sure you place it so that it reflects a pleasant view – not a blank wall or a closet door. Also ensure the mirror is at a height that won't cut the heads off tall people, which is considered bad feng shui!

An interesting lamp or candle selection can add interest to a space, particularly if you select something bold or unique. They can become a talking point and late in the evening can make a nice change from strong overhead light.

Whether you decide to clean, declutter, paint, light or cover, you can create a whole new look in a weekend without blowing the budget. H

Below top Mirrors can make a small space seem much larger. The walls are Resene Fiesta.

Below Consider using a striking colour for one wall, such as Resene Sanguine Brown, then choose appropriate artwork to complement it.





Resene Fiesta

Resene Sanguine Brown



inner change

If you can't change the world outside, why not change your walls on the inside?





Contrasting wallpaper designs in matching colour combinations freshen up a room: Endless Summer from the Vision Esprit Home collection.

Resene Red Hot

Resene Sea Fog

Forget the negativity and gloom of the wider world. Do something positive in your home by giving your walls a fresh new look with affordable wallcoverings. This classic stripe and modern floral from the Vision Esprit Home collection will add impact and interest for less than you think – and it will cheer you up with its bright and breezy design. Wallpaper is definitely back in style, but now it's quick and easy to install, and to replace.

Decide to dress up one wall or more, perhaps starting with the entrance to your house. Even if you have an open plan space immediately around the front door, the entry sets the welcoming mood for you and your guests. Because it is generally small, make this one of the first spaces you tackle. It's a smallish bite out of your decorating budget, but gives a high impact result.

Then once you've seen the positive impact it makes, head on to other rooms of the house and try fresh designs there too.

The Vision Esprit Home collection wallpaper designs and more are on view now at your Resene ColorShop or visit www.vision.co.nz.

VISION wallcoverings

ooh la la

Ros de Coek transforms a tired piece of furniture with this French-inspired paint effect.





An imaginatively painted piece of furniture will easily become the centrepiece of any room, whether you choose a whimsical theme, floral, heavily distressed or just a smart simple design.

Don't be too concerned about competency or technique as these painting techniques are easy to master.

Choose an interesting piece to work on for this paint effect – something with nice shapes and forms. Consider where the piece will be placed then choose a colour to enhance the room, as well as one or two contrasting colours for the highlights.

This piece uses a combination of paint and gold leaf gilding, as well as gilding within a stencilled area.

You will need

> Basecoat paint colour (we used Resene SpaceCote Flat waterborne enamel tinted to Resene Cabbage Pont)

> Highlight/secondary colour (we used a testpot of Resene Planter)

> Sheets of gold leaf (available from art supply stores) and small bottle of sizing liquid

> Resene Waterborne Smooth Surface Sealer (no need for sanding)

> Masking tape, the type to use on painted surfaces

> Steel wool

> 38mm paintbrush

Step 1 >

Briskly wipe over the piece of furniture to clean off dust and grime. Remove any handles and hinges. Paint with Resene Waterborne Smooth Surface Sealer by following the directions on the tin. Liberally paint any areas to be highlighted with the secondary colour.

Step 2 >

Cover over the areas that will eventually show through with masking tape. This will give you sharp edges and corners, and save having to overpaint the highlights with a steady hand.





Step 3 >

Paint over the entire piece with your main colour then gently remove the masking tape to reveal the highlights.



Step 4 >

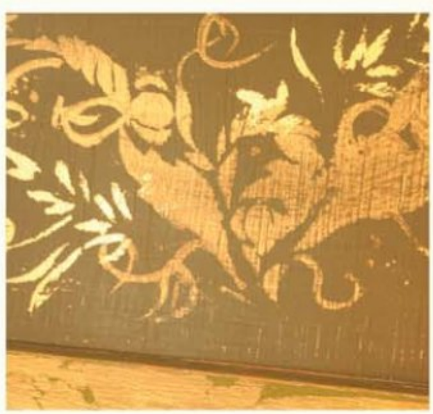
Now gild on top of the highlight colour. Practice first on something small like an old picture frame. Gilding isn't difficult, just delicate. Follow the instructions on the gold leaf sheets – the gold leaf is applied on top of the sizing liquid. Work quickly and don't try to remove any – it can be gently sanded off later. Overlay sheets liberally and if applying in strips as shown here, cut several sheets with a sharp blade before beginning so there is less wastage.

Brush off the excess leaf with a soft brush, being quite brisk.

Resene Cabbage Pont

Resene Planter





Alternatively you can paint on a gold effect using Resene Gold Effects, either directly onto the furniture or create a stencil and use that for your design.

If a little distressing is required, rub all over with steel wool or (very carefully) with a hand sander. A high-gloss, such as Resene Aquaclear, or flat polyurethane can be used to protect the painted surface.

See more furniture like this in Ros de Coek's stunning French-style house on page 20.

styling and painting Ros de Coek
pictures Rossi Gannon

"It's like a memory box. I love the social historical context of these pieces."

Resene Bright Red

Resene English Sage

Resene Merino

Resene Pizazz



Right Philippa at work in her studio.

memories are made of this

Artist Philippa Bentley combines nostalgia, insects, demo materials and colour to create her unique artworks.

From an image of the large brightly coloured cut-out butterflies that used to adorn weatherboard houses in the 1950s in her head, artist Philippa Bentley has created an evocative series of artworks.

Called the Insects and Memories series, the art combines reproductions of iconic packaging with detailed images of insects, screen-printed and hand-painted onto old weatherboards using colours from the Resene Heritage range. The images are then hand labelled and box framed as if archived in a museum collection.

She began with the monarch butterfly, painted with a pattern inspired by the Edmonds Sure to Rise Baking Powder packet. From there, the collection grew to include a puriri moth with Watties peas patterning, a huhu beetle decorated with the cover of the Powell's Native Animals of New Zealand book cover and a honey bee with Beehive matches.

There is a giant weta holding two rayguns – the antique-style sci-fi weapons designed by Greg Broadmore of Weta Workshops. "The giant weta is blazing on, despite being endangered. It's a timeless creature, from prehistoric times. It's sad to think it's under threat," says Philippa.

Also, a painted lady butterfly using the pin-up girl image from the World War Two B17F airplane Memphis Belle and a cicada with a radio tuner painted on its abdomen. "I remember holding cicadas in your cupped hands, next to your ear as a kid and listening to them," she says.

"All of the elements just seemed to come together. It's like a memory box. I love the social historical context of these pieces, a sort of layering of memories and familiarity. People really respond to them in that way," says Philippa.

"I grew up playing in the bush and in the stream at the bottom of our garden. I mean, I liked my Barbies but would dam swimming pools for them in the stream! The bush, nature and insects have always had a fascination for me."

A major source of inspiration has been the natural history and entomology departments of the Auckland War Memorial Museum. "I think the collections are so, so beautiful… They are about the natural specimen and the human input of the collector – some from over a century ago and the social context of that time."

The insect outlines are screen-printed, then each one is hand-painted. Using weatherboards as a canvas was also an extension of Philippa's earlier works, using plywood as her base. Hunted out at a local demolition yard, the weatherboards are in various states of repair, with layers of paint peeling away to reveal the timber beneath. The organic nature of the weatherboard presents its challenges when screen-printed by hand. "It's the unpredictable nature of the process that I like, the fact that each print takes on its own life and is quite distinctive from the next."

For those who don't like their artworks quite as rustic, Philippa also works on paper.

When searching for the right colours to use, the local Resene ColorShop staff suggested the Resene Heritage chart. "They're ideal. The Resene Bright Red* is the perfect red and Resene Merino* has that aged look. The green I use is actually a blend of Resene English Sage and Resene Highland."

Philippa only recently took the plunge into full time art after leaving her job as a facilitator helping other artists get work. "I found I was giving the sort of advice that I needed to take myself."

The move has been successful and she is now represented by Lane Gallery in Auckland city, Art of this World in Devonport, on her own website www.philippabentley.co.nz and on the www.cleverbastards.co.nz website. She's also working on her next bug – a stag beetle. "There's lots of scope with insects." H

* Resene Bright Red is also known as Resene Vermillion. Resene Merino is also known as Resene Zinc White.

words Sharon Newey **pictures** Frances Oliver







Top Philippa's insect series began with the monarch butterfly painted with a Edmonds Baking Powder packet pattern.

Above The puriri moth with a Watties peas design.

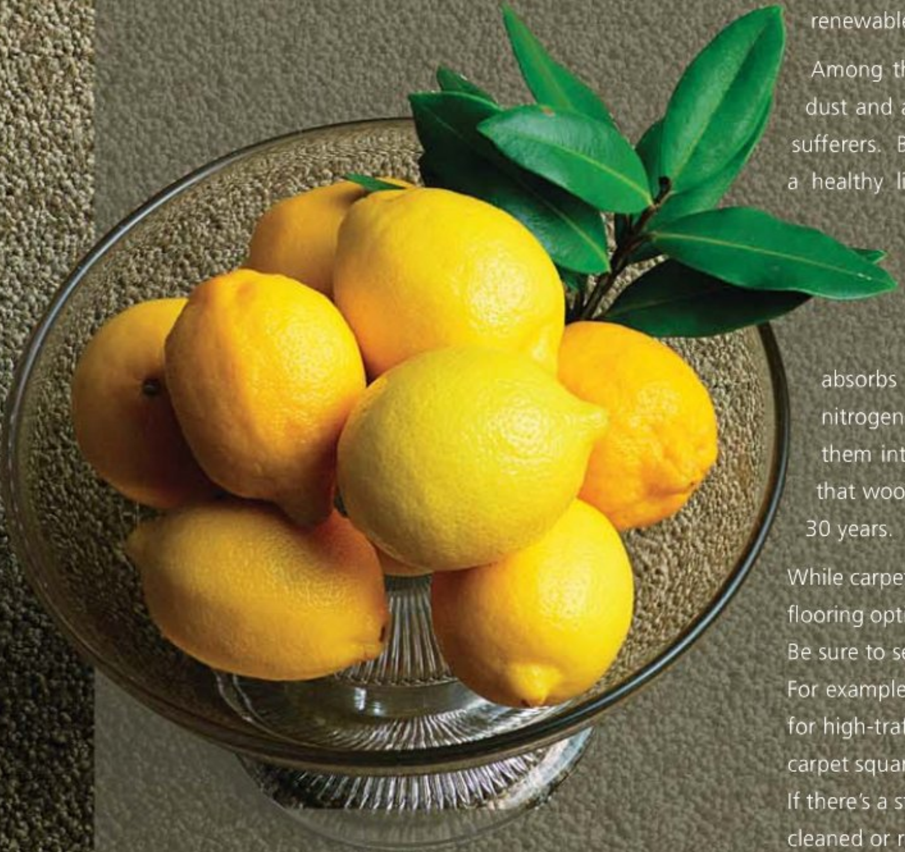
Right The giant weta with his rayguns.

hard or soft?

Trying to choose between carpet and timber? Both flooring options have eco-friendly aspects.

When it comes to flooring, most of us fall squarely into one camp or the other: we're either in love with our timber floors or couldn't imagine life without carpet. While we aim to choose flooring that suits our lifestyle, home décor and personal preferences, today, more of us are looking at the eco-friendly aspects of the materials we choose to live with.

To protect your health and minimise harm to the environment, the Government-sponsored Smarter Homes website (www.smarterhomes.org.nz) recommends looking for flooring materials that are durable, do not emit volatile organic compounds (VOCs), can be recycled, and are made from sustainably sourced natural materials or from recycled materials. So how do carpet and timber stack up as flooring options?



Carpet – covering your bases

Carpet adds a whole range of benefits to your living environment. It reduces noise through sound absorption; provides warmth, comfort and insulation; is slip resistant, hardwearing and easy to clean; and offers design versatility thanks to the extensive colour, pile and pattern choices available.

As a natural thermal insulator and a low conductor of heat, carpet can make a measurable impact on energy savings. It's been estimated that wool carpet, in particular, will reduce a household's energy costs in both heating and cooling by 8% to 12%.

Wool carpet offers additional advantages in that it's inherently flame retardant and hard to ignite. As well as being a renewable resource, wool is biodegradable.

Among the myths associated with carpet is that it collects dust and allergens making it bad for asthmatics and allergy sufferers. But, with regular vacuuming, carpet can create a healthy living environment. Carpet fibres also trap dust, pollen and pet dander, reducing their continued circulation in the air until they're removed by vacuuming.

According to Wools of New Zealand, wool absorbs common contaminants such as formaldehyde, nitrogen dioxide and sulphur dioxide, and will not re-emit them into the air, even when heated. It has been claimed that wool carpets can continually purify indoor air for up to 30 years.

While carpet isn't as hard wearing as solid timber or other hard flooring options, high-quality carpets are certainly made to last. Be sure to select the right carpet for your specific requirement. For example, choose a shorter-pile, more tightly woven carpet for high-traffic areas such as entranceways and halls. Modular carpet squares are ideal for kids' bedrooms and rumpus rooms. If there's a stain, you can simply pull up that square and have it cleaned or replace it altogether with minimal fuss and cost.

When choosing a carpet that's kind to both the planet and your living environment, look for those with Environmental Choice New Zealand (ECNZ) certification and evidence of environmental management standards and systems, such as ISO 14001 or Enviro-mark®, and Zero Waste, EBEX 21, or The Natural Step.

Timber – a growing concern

Natural, available in a wide range of colours, and visually attractive, timber floors have been a popular choice for everything from villas to modern townhouses and holiday homes. They're a practical option that requires minimal care to continue looking great, and the durability of solid timber flooring means it will still be in your home long after you're gone.

Timber can be polyurethaned, stained, waxed and painted to create a range of different looks from modern to traditional, and the knots, colour variations and imperfections add a particular charm. Being hard wearing, timber is ideal for heavily trafficked areas such as entranceways and stairs.

The difficulty in choosing timber comes with knowing whether what you're buying is from a renewable and environmentally sound source. Put simply, for timber to be sustainable, a tree must be planted for every one that's harvested, and the forest must maintain its ecological integrity and continue to benefit the local people long term.

Kwila, or merbau, has been a very popular tropical timber for decking and flooring. But global demand for this cheap hardwood has led to the destruction of natural habitats and the exploitation of local communities in South-East Asia where it grows. According to Greenpeace, virtually all kwila on the market is from illegal sources in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea. Indonesian forests are being logged faster than any other forested nation, and more than three quarters of the country's timber production is thought to be illicit. Few flooring manufacturers know the precise source of the kwila they sell and cannot show it was legally sourced.

The best way to choose sustainable timber and avoid contributing to global deforestation is to look for Good Wood products made from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or verified-legal wood. Look for the FSC logo on the packaging. Full FSC certification guarantees that the timber comes from properly managed forests, and that it was harvested legally, sustainably and with respect for the rights of the local people. An independent, non-profit organisation, the FSC is one of the most reputable certification bodies in the world, and is supported by WWF, Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and the Environmental Investigation Agency.

Alternatively, buy locally made where possible. Our indigenous timbers, such as beech, rimu and tawa, now come from privately owned, sustainably managed forests. These must be managed to the highest standards and according to individual plans set out by the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry.

Choose plantation timbers or ecotimber, such as vitex, which is harvested from community-based eco-forestry operations. Also, look for second-hand timber, as recycled materials have the least impact on the environment.

Bamboo is another great renewable timber option that's not only very attractive, but is also extremely stable and hardwearing, making it ideal for flooring. It grows to full maturity in just five years (versus the 30-50 years of traditional hardwoods) and, once cut, it rejuvenates quickly. And don't worry about the impact on pandas – they eat a different species to the bamboo used for flooring.

And if you still can't decide whether carpet or timber is the best flooring option for your home, why not combine the two and enjoy the best of both worlds? H

top tip

For timber flooring, look for Good Wood products made from Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or verified-legal wood.

For carpet, look for Environmental Choice New Zealand (ECNZ) certification and evidence of environmental management standards and systems, such as ISO 14001 or Enviro-mark®, and Zero Waste, EBEX 21, or The Natural Step.

words Deirdre Coleman **pictures** Cavalier Bremworth and Bamboo Flooring Systems

world recognition for NZ Environmental Choice

Resene. Licensed products since 1996

A global study commissioned by the British Government has rated Environmental Choice New Zealand as having one of the strongest environmental assessments in the world. Environmental Choice was cited as an example of best practice in environmental labelling internationally by Britain's Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra).

Environmental Choice New Zealand's green and black logo, neatly combining New Zealand's iconic colour black with the recognised green for the environment, is the symbol found on products which have been independently audited under the world-leading eco certification.

Users of Resene paint will recognise the label from Resene's paint tins and buckets. Resene was the first paint company to get an extensive range of its products accredited to this very stringent eco-label back in 1996.

Joining the Environmental Choice programme gave Resene the impetus to remove virtually all odorous material from Resene Zylone Sheen, Resene Zylone 20 and Resene Ceiling Paint, giving users high quality products without strong smelling solvent odours. Users could paint interior areas and put the area back into service almost immediately, rather than waiting for days for the strong odours to disappear.

Resene also introduced waterborne products that could be used in place of solventborne products, such as waterborne enamels Resene Enamacryl and Resene Lustacryl. Customers reaped the benefits of easy water wash-up, lower odour and a fraction of the VOCs of the solventborne products they had traditionally been forced to use for wet areas, trim and joinery.

Environmental Choice's general manager, Robin Taylor, said the results of the global study was like scoring an Olympic medal for the environment.

"This global achievement is of such significance that it uplifts our country's whole environmental reputation. It puts Environmental Choice on the map with organisations that are legendary for their commitment, their standards and depth of authority, and whose breadth of environmental certification shows the way forward. The Ministry for the Environment, which owns the label, has much to be proud of."

Visit www.environmentalchoice.org.nz for more information.

In Australia the Good Environmental Choice Label indicates the environmental performance of a product from a whole-of-product-life perspective for consumer goods. The label is awarded to products that meet voluntary environmental performance standards which have been created and assessed in conformance to international environmental labelling standards. The program is internationally recognised and growing in demand and awareness throughout different industries. A selection of Resene products have been approved as meeting Good Environmental Choice specifications – see the Resene website www.resene.com.au.

RES-2008
GECA 23-2005-
Architectural and Protective Coatings

A success story

Thanks to you, the Resene PaintWise paint and paint packaging recovery service collected more than 300,000 packs from Resene ColorShops and more than 100,000kg from council depots in the two years to the end of 2008. Of this, more than 120,000kg of steel was recycled, more than 80,000 litres of solventborne paint was sent to solvent recovery and more than 60,000 litres of waterborne paint was donated to community groups, much of which was used to cover graffiti. Celebrating its innovative approach to product stewardship and paint and paint packaging recovery, Resene PaintWise was awarded a Green Ribbon Award in 2008 for innovation, the Business Environmental Leadership Award in the ARC Environmental Awards 2005 and an Award for Excellence in the Environmental Packaging Awards 2005.

Unwanted paint and paint packaging can be returned to most Resene ColorShops in New Zealand. See your Resene ColorShop or www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm.

Resene Aspiring
Resene Evolution
Resene Genie
Resene Merino



win
with Habitat and Tangible Media

We have some **fantastic prizes** to give away – all you have to do is write your contact details with the name of the item you'd like to win on the back of an envelope.

Remember to include your name, email address, street address and a daytime phone number.

Entries should be posted to: Win with *Habitat* competition Tangible Media, PO Box 78070, Grey Lynn, Auckland 1245

essenze

New Zealand inspired design

Celebrated New Zealand potter, Peter Collis, is a master at creating simple, pure forms, with lustrous glazes. Shown here is an Aqua Orb from Peter's Orb, Bottle and Flat Vase family collection.



Be in to win this beautiful object by writing 'essenze – New Zealand inspired design', and your contact details on the back of an envelope.

Resene Sanguine Brown

Citta Design



Be in to win a pair of super soft luxury dressing gowns with matching slippers from CITTA DESIGN, valued at $210.

The set includes a dark chocolate gown, a soft warm putty gown with slippers to match. We have two sets to give away, simply write 'Citta Design' on the back of an envelope with your contact details.

Resene Eclipse

1000 Home Ideas



Whether you are a first-time buyer or an experienced home-owner, Dymocks Booksellers have all the DIY books you need. 1000 Home Ideas by Stafford Cliff is a unique source of ideas, providing all the inspiration you will need to make the home of your dreams.

Dymocks have five copies to give away valued at $50 each. To be in to win, simply write '1000 Home Ideas' on the back of an envelope with your contact details.

DYMOCKS FOR BOOKLOVERS

Resene



Splash some colour around your home and your community.

Win a prize for you and a prize for your favourite charity. Be in to win one of two prizes of a $100 Resene voucher for you, plus the lucky winners can nominate their favourite charity or community group who will also receive a $100 Resene voucher.

To be in to win simply write 'Resene', the name of your selected charity and your contact details on the back of an envelope.

Resene Bounce

Tea Crates



Healtheries ' Kiwi ' Tea Crates, each containing three new fabulously fruity teas – Feijoa, Golden Kiwifruit and Tamarillo with Kamahi Honey. Perfect for a relaxing caffeine-free cuppa or a refreshing iced tea. Also included is a selection from Healtheries Green and Herbal tea ranges. We have two tea crates to give away, valued at $35 each. Simply write 'Tea Crate' on the back of an envelope with your contact details.

Resene Poprock

Conditions of entry: Competition is open to NZ residents only. All employees, and their immediate families, of Resene Paints Limited, Tangible Media and their advertising agencies, are ineligible to enter. Prize may not be exchanged or redeemed for cash. Competition closes 5pm, 30 September 2009.





born again

A 'dreadful' Christchurch garden is remodeled into a soothing sanctuary.

Having spent several years living in a second-floor central Christchurch apartment, Vance and Cathy Stewart don't take gardens for granted. Now after extensive garden remodeling, they find it incredible to think that last winter, their outside reality involved little more than mud and cold temperatures.

Despite the fact this garden looks fabulously established already, professional landscaper Ross Marriott of Artworks Landscape Ltd is thinking even further ahead. "You have to imagine how this will look in, say, three years," he says. He's as qualified as anyone to say he knows the lie of the land here.

The Stewart house is a gracious homestead characterised by mellow oaty-coloured stucco cladding, and harks back to a gentler era. It once stood as proud mistress of a large corner site – possessing a typical ad-hoc garden of the type baby-boomers recall from childhood, with some grass here, uneven paving there, and eclectic plantings to no particular plan or logic.

Cathy, who now describes the garden as her 'baby', knew when she bought the property two-and-a-half years ago that renovation work would be extensive. But she's no stranger to hard work. She and Vance raised six children in another big old house – one possessing copious outdoor space, before their stint of apartment living near central city schools. For most of that time they escaped to a beautiful house and garden in Akaroa at weekends. >



Left A path winds between a huge urn and standard iceberg roses.

Far left An old rhododendron with its twisted trunk was the sole survivor from the original garden.

words Liesl Johnstone
pictures Juliet Nicholas





Above Another urn is the focal point of the outdoor dining area.

Right Wrought iron furniture adds lightness to the area.

top tip

Consider elements that have dual uses. For example, in this garden the walls that surround the patio area have been designed to be the perfect height and width to serve as extra seating when numbers swell and all tableside chairs are occupied.

Although it possessed heaps of potential, the Stewarts' current home had languished on the market for an entire year. Not only did it need both external and internal paint, the house's garden was nothing short of "dreadful", Cathy says. She knew she would reincarnate the garden and mentally began with a blank canvas.

Cathy's vision was for a bounty of green structure to provide year-round substance and beauty, as opposed to just "a mass of flowers in summer and mud in winter".

In their initial meetings to nut out an overall concept and plan, Ross and Cathy thoroughly assessed both the space and the plantings. Some decisions were simple. The huge, space-sapping macrocarpa hedge had to go. Other plants were "lovely, but just not in this garden".

Not one for wholesale wastage, Cathy packed many of the more valuable inherited plants onto a trailer and donated them to a grateful son's fledgling garden.

Cathy and Ross immediately recognised one gem amidst the horticultural mix. A large old, centrally placed rhododendron tree with a twisted and curved trunk was a keeper. They saw potential for it to form a natural division between lawn spaces, and provide an umbrella of colour in spring and summer.

The ability to visualise a reinterpreted garden and identify existing assets has become second nature to Ross. He's been involved in the creative design process for his 25-year working life. Some things are now instinctive.

> "It's that ancient, enduring look you get in European cities and villages; a style that's easy to live with."

"My approach is to age the landscape as quickly as possible, by using quality, timeless-looking materials. I also layer plants to achieve depth in both colour and texture."

He indicates huge urns set unerringly into the garden's hard landscaping. "Those, for instance, look as if they've been under the sea for a century. It's that ancient, enduring look you get in European cities and villages; a style that's easy to live with."

In fact, this particular project, undertaken in six to seven weeks during the bleak 2008 winter, is the type Ross relishes most. He had a passionately interested client – one who consulted him and was willing to listen, and whose ideas changed and evolved. Cathy spent 'countless hours' planning and thinking about what she wanted. Vance painted walls and dug in hundreds of buxus plants. Ross believes good design should be an evolutionary process, because not everything goes exactly to plan.

The relatively small garden now feels much larger than it actually is, including interesting features from every vantage point, with enough robust hard landscaping to easily accommodate numerous guests. The paving echoes the white of the roses and the charcoal of fences and mondo grasses. Nothing jars.

Ross and Cathy have punctuated the greenery with white, red and black throughout. Three birches were chosen for their stark white trunks, lit from beneath to dramatic effect. Underlying hostas were similarly selected for their delicately white-edged leaves.

Red accent shades will appear as the seasons change. There will be the flame-red of Boston ivy in autumn, red rhododendron flowers in spring, and two dark red maples standing sentinel year-round.

Other favourites of Cathy's are her port-wine magnolias, her conifer walk at the side of the house, and the comfrey carpet near the entranceway. She's even taken great delight in planting a compact vegetable garden by the washing line.

"I find just being here therapeutic, the way children must feel, playing in a sand-pit. This is my chill-out zone," she says.

Wall fountain:
The Complete Garden
www.thecompletegarden.co.nz

Resene
Barely There





Urns: Pottery World & Emporio
www.potteryworld.co.nz

Resene
Streetwise

Outdoor furniture:
Domo Collections
www.domo.co.nz

Resene
Topspin



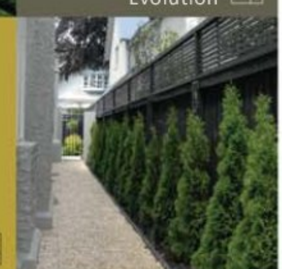


Designer: Ross Marriott of Artworks Landscape Ltd, Christchurch
www.artworkslandscape.co.nz

Resene
Evolution

The conifer walkway

Resene
Karma



Resene
X Factor

turn the page for two alternative style solutions





^ Planting includes cycads, bromeliads, viburnum and bright flowers.

Did you know? For a non-slip finish around your home, use Resene Non-Skid Deck & Path, tinted to complement your colour scheme, to reduce the risk of accident. Available from Resene.

Resene
Lime White

illustration Bruce Bryant



Ecosmart Flare fireplace

Real Fires New Zealand
www.ecosmartfire.com
09 912 2324

Stonemat in Sumba mixed

Stone and Water World
www.stoneworld.co.nz
09 525 3142



Black mirror stainless steel water feature

Contemporary Water Sculptures
www.watersculptures.co.nz



Resene Fish N Chips

Resene Escapade

Resene Half Masala

Resene Red Hot



Dedon Slimline daybed in chocolate

Domo Collections
www.domo.co.nz
09 921 5574 or 03 379 8818

Star jasmine
(Trachelospernum jasminoides)





Tina McHarg

Landscape designer Tina McHarg suggests this alternative scheme:

The existing design has a great use of space, a calm colour scheme and simple lines. I have given the area a more exotic feel by introducing fire, water, stone and lush planting. The Ecosmart fire will add ambiance for evening entertaining and the water feature will provide a relaxing background sound. Comfortable Dedon furniture will encourage time spent relaxing in this space. Resene Half Masala has been chosen for the plastered walls as a weighty earthy neutral to simplify the area and tone in with the acid-etched coloured concrete and stonemat inlay. Low-maintenance evergreen palms are chosen for year-round interest, height and structure and are complemented with bold foliage, bright red canna flowers and scented jasmine.

phone 07 827 3593 **email** tkdesign@slingshot.co.nz





^ Plants used include pomegranate, rosemary 'Mozart', feijoa, crabapple, sunflowers, red gladioli and grape vine espalier.

Did you know? Rejuvenate and protect outdoor wooden furniture without annoying drips of normal wood stains, with Resene Timber and Furniture Gel. Available in Sheer Black, Kwila, Jarrah Tree and Silvered Grey from Resene.

Resene Breathless

illustration Bruce Bryant

>

Mosaic window box

Liz Earth, Te Awanga
lizearth@xtra.co.nz

planted with rosemary and herbs

>>

Sunflower







<

Mirror mosaic egg

Liz Earth, Te Awanga
lizearth@xtra.co.nz

>

Macrocarpa table and bench seats

Peter Maclean
06 870 0711 or 021 046 1120



>

Red pottery dishes, used as bird baths

Jackie Crespin
06 877 8372



Mauve geranium

Resene Yucca

Resene Red Berry

Resene Bondi Blue

Resene Dark Slate



Jenny Horne

of Jenny Horne Garden Design suggests this alternative scheme:

This is very much an indigenous garden, using local artists and craftspeople, and is also a highly useful garden, full of fruit trees, vines and vegetables, many set within macrocarpa-edged square gardens. Aside from being able to eat the produce of the garden and pick the flowers, the herbs provide an aromatic backdrop when relaxing in the area and the flowers and fruit attract birdlife. The house has been repainted in a scheme of green, deep red and clear blue while the lines of the garden are kept quite crisp to complement the house. The garden uses renewable timbers and porous paving materials.

phone 06 835 8426 **email** jennyhorne@clear.net.nz

lawn low down

words and pictures thanks to Hirepool

Autumn is the perfect time to sow a new lawn.

You will need

trailer (or you may wish to get your topsoil delivered), spray pack, Dingo, cultivator and rotary hoe, water-filled hand roller, spade and rake, topsoil, fertiliser, lawn seed



Step 1 >

Use a herbicide spray to kill off any existing lawn and weeds.



Step 2 >

After spraying, remove excess topsoil and rotary hoe the area. Leave for a few weeks to ensure there is no further weed growth. Repeat step one and two as necessary.



Step 3 v

Spread a good base of new good-quality topsoil, with the gradient running away from any buildings to allow for water runoff.



Resene Feverpitch

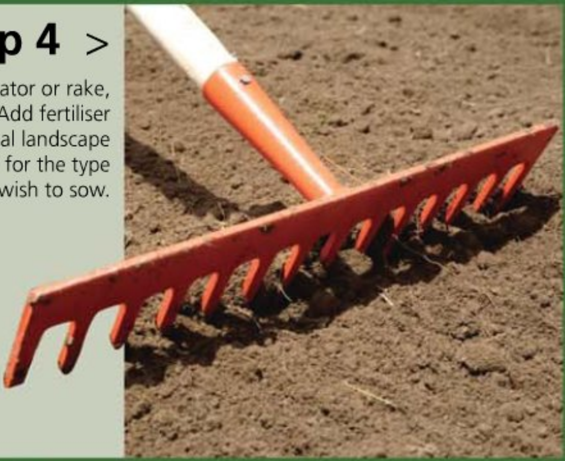
Resene Phoenix

Resene Secrets

Resene Topspin

Step 4 >

Aerate the topsoil with a cultivator or rake, removing any large clumps. Add fertiliser if desired – consult your local landscape supplier for the best fertiliser for the type of grass you wish to sow.



Step 5 v

Lightly compact the area using a water-filled hand roller, being mindful to avoid over compressing.





< Step 6

To sow your seed, work in a metre square grid pattern, spreading seed both horizontally and vertically within each metre of the grid to ensure even coverage.

Step 7 >

Water regularly, but avoid pooling of water as this can wash away your seed.

For further information please go to www.hirepool.co.nz.





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As well as the discounts on purchases at Resene ColorShops, you can present your Resene ColorShop Card elsewhere and enjoy discounts on a range of products and services from furniture, artwork and tiles through to magazines.

Simply present your Resene ColorShop Card or quote your card number to take advantage of these great offers. Offers are valid until 30 September 2009 and are not available in conjunction with any other offer, discount or promotion. All companies reserve the right to amend or update their offers at any time.

For more information on all these great offers and more, see **www.resene.co.nz/colorshopcardoffers.co.nz.**

Subscribe to NZ Rugby World

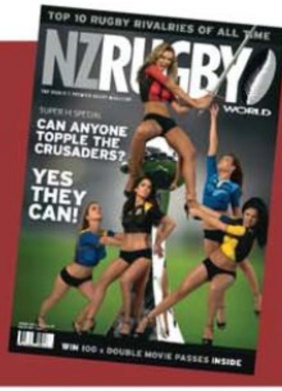
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Offer starts with the next available issue.

Resene Kachow





tile warehouse

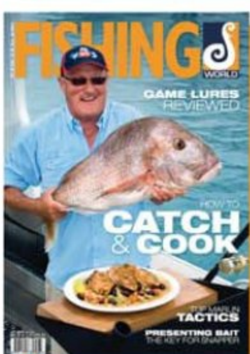
Tile Warehouse offers 10% discount off all tiles and tile related products such as Devi Underfloor heat mats, Aquamix cleaning and maintenance products and Construction Chemicals glues and grouts.

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Discount does not apply to benchtops or vanities.

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Available to Resene ColorShop Cardholders only. Not available in conjunction with any other offer.

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glengarry

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Art for Art's Sake THE ART OF LIVING

Resene Mariner



trends magazine

Subscribe to the Trends Home Series, an international showcase of ideas for home design.

Trends offers Resene Cardholders a one-year subscription to the Home Series for $65.

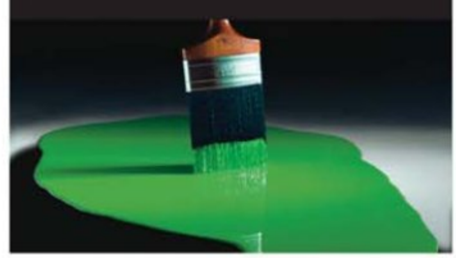
Your one year subscriptions will include the following:

- 2 editions each of Renovation Trends, Kitchen Trends, Outdoor Living Trends
- 4 editions of New Home Trends and 1 edition of Bathroom Trends.

www.trendsideas.com

Resene Fun Fair

And don't forget to use your Resene ColorShop Card when you're shopping at your local Resene ColorShop and enjoy savings on a wide range of paints, wallpaper and decorating accessories. If you don't have a Resene ColorShop Card, you can sign up online at www.resene.co.nz (NZ) or www.resene.com.au (AUST).





forma contemporary furniture

forma furniture

Forma furniture offers a 10% discount to Resene cardholders

This includes all sofas, chairs, giftware and accessories on both floorstock product or orders placed for manufacture.

Resene La Rioja

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framed!



1

Jazz up a plain picture or mirror frame with painted cut-outs.

You will need:

- A plain wooden or MDF picture or mirror frame (available from craft stores)
- Pen and a sheet of Coverseal or Duraseal (any contact adhesive will do, it's a plastic coating with a paper backing used to cover school books)
- Scissors
- Paintbrushes
- Resene testpots (see suggestions below)
- Glue-on jewels
- Craft glue

Resene Charlotte
Resene Hyperactive
Resene Lickety Split
Resene Party Dress

2



3



4



5



To make:

1. Remove the mirror or photo back and glass, then apply the basecoat of paint to the front of the frame. You can either apply a single colour or paint stripes of different colours so you get a number of colours coming through later. If you paint stripes of colours, let each stripe dry before you paint the next.
2. Take the Coverseal and a pen and draw some simple shapes on the paper side. We did fish, flowers, leaves, spirals, wiggly lines, hearts and stars. Make sure they aren't too big to fit on the painted frames. Cut them out carefully.
3. Peel the paper backing off the shapes and stick them down on to the frames. On the frame with the lime basecoat, we stuck down some shapes and then painted another layer of paint, allowed that to dry and then stuck down a second set of shapes to get two colours showing through later.
4. Apply the final coat of paint, over all layers of shapes. This will be the main colour that shows. Let this dry properly.
5. Peel off the shapes to reveal the colours below! On the mirror, we used craft glue to stick on the jewels for a bit of extra zing. Replace the mirror, insert photos or pictures and backing boards.

Try these colour combinations:

Mirror: Basecoat in stripes of Resene Fast Lane, Resene Charlotte and Resene Art Action Metallic Nitro. Topcoat: Resene Royal Heath.

Single layer frame: Basecoat in Resene Sportstar, topcoat in Resene Lucky Break.

Double layer frame: Basecoat in Resene Lickety Split, middle coat in Resene Parachute, topcoat in Resene Hyperactive.



styling and words Helena Dunn **pictures** Mark Heaslip

from you...

Your views and news

Rhino head artist

In our last issue, the magnificent replica rhino head that graces the walls of David and Bronwen Melrose's house was incorrectly attributed to Weta Workshops. It was, in fact, hand-made by Tanya Marriott of Marmalade Monkey. The piece was inspired by Tanya's Animal parody Dolls and her other projects include award winning garments in the world of wearable arts. The rhino head was painted with left-over Resene testpots in shades of tan and umber.



Packing it in

Architect Pierre du Toit took Resene, in the form of his trusty backpack, to the end of the earth on his latest vacation on a cruise to Antarctica last November.





That's a lot of paint

When Corry and Jan Zeestraten repainted their magnificent home, Reynox House in Oxford, Canterbury, they built a pyramid out of the paint they used to show our local Rangiora reseller how much work they had done! It's a pretty impressive pile made up of 39 x 10L, 18 x 4L and 1 x 2L.

The circa 1916 house has been grandly restored, has eight bedrooms and three bathrooms, and is set on 2903sq m of land.



Not just the walls

Just wanted to thank you again for organising the sponsorship for our Sevens costumes. We had a fantastic time and received heaps of good comments about our costumes. In fact, we're considering wearing them again next year. Someone from Resene also dropped down a few of the Resene inflatable hands for us to use which also managed to get into quite a few photos.

– Andrea Dunnett

Reborn paint

One man's junk is another man's treasure. A few places around Tauranga have benefited from the hard work of Peter Hardyment and donated paint from the Resene PaintWise service – where unwanted paint can be returned by the public and is gifted to community groups by Resene. This cheeky corrugated iron artwork (below) is in the Alzheimers Society garden.

Any community group interested in receiving paint can collect a community paint registration form from any Resene ColorShop and return it to Resene Marketing, PO Box 38242, Wellington Mail Centre or register online. See www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm for more information.

Congratulations to Peter Hardyment, our winner this issue.



We look forward to receiving your letters and queries, and would particularly like to see any weird and wonderful ways you have used Resene paints. The best letter will win a Get Decorating Kit from Resene.

Mail us at: hey habitat, Resene Habitat Magazine, PO Box 38242, Wellington Mail Centre, New Zealand. Or email: advice@resene.co.nz with hey habitat in the subject line.

Resene Primetime

life's a beach

West Coast beaches are the inspiration behind actress Robyn Malcolm's decorating schemes.

Actress Robyn Malcolm plays the much-loved character of Cheryl West in TV3's *Outrageous Fortune*, a role for which she has won many awards. She has also become the high-profile ambassador for Right House, a company specialising in energy efficiency systems for new and existing homes.

Tell us about your work with Right House, and your own home.

When I heard that Right House was a company offering a way to create more energy efficient, environmentally friendly, and economic homes, I was keen to get behind it. I'm a busy working mum and Right House offers people like me the opportunity to keep my kids warm and dry while taking a step towards doing the right thing, like reducing energy consumption.

The Right House team of experts did a makeover on my home and it has honestly made a world of difference to our everyday lives. Our shower uses less water, the insulation keeps us warmer and reduces our energy consumption – since my Right House makeover the power bill has been reduced by two thirds!

What is your favourite colour and why?

I don't really have a favourite colour… honestly! It depends on the day, my mood, the weather. I guess the ones which come to mind would have to be grassy warm green, orangey red, warmish greys and beige colours.

What is your favourite decorating colour or combination of colours and why?

I decorated the kitchen using a palette of colours that to me represent a West Auckland beach – grassy green, stormy grey, pohutukawa red and toi toi blonde. I also have used a lot of soft blues and greens. I like cool colours in the house.

Have those choices changed during the years? If so, what influenced that?

No not really. I like what I like.

Is there a colour you would never use in your own home?

No, I think every colour has its place.

What do you love or hate about the recent (but waning) trend for neutral colours, white-on-white?

White-on-white colours kind of bore me but I can see the value in the 'zen-ness' of it. I occasionally like putting a few white tones together to create a peaceful look – as long as it doesn't look too clean!

What are your three favourite colours from the Resene The Range 2009?

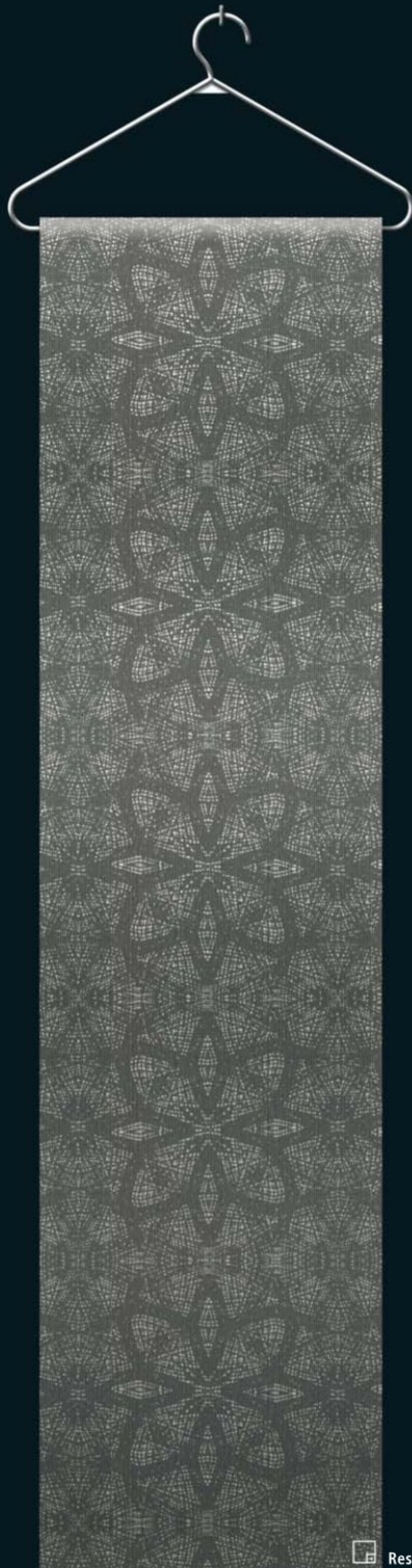
Resene Bullseye, Resene Cross Country and Resene Spanish White. H



Resene Bullseye

Resene Cross Country

Resene Spanish White



Dress up your walls

Building on the popularity and versatility of previous Resene wallpaper collections, the new Resene Wallpaper Collection 2011, is designed to take homes and buildings into the next decade.

The new collection features popular patterns in modern neutral hues through to striking black meets white designs that look fabulous in feature areas.

The Resene Wallpaper Collection 2011
is available exclusively from
Resene ColorShops.



Resene

the paint the professionals use

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Resene Retro Linen